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Lincoln

The "Makings" of
The Lincoln Association
of Jersey City

By William H. Richardson



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from the author, W. H. Richardson



Abraham Lincoln and "Thad." A popular picture in certain Jersey City homes in Civil War times.

The "Makings" of
The Lincoln Association
of Jersey City



A Souvenir of the Dinner at the Carteret Club Commem-
rating the One Hundred and Tenth Anniversary
of the Birth of Abraham Lincoln

By William H. Richardson

The Jersey City Printing Company
1919

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LINCOLNIANA

Officers of the Lincoln Association of Jersey City, 1919

- President . . . Robert A. Alberts, 123 Jewett Ave., Jersey City
- 1st Vice President . Wilbur E. Mallalieu, 38 Bentley Ave., Jersey City
- 2nd Vice President . C. C. Wilson, Lincoln High School, Jersey City
- Treasurer . . . Otto H. Lohsen, 238a Academy St., Jersey City
- Historian . . . John H. Ward, 34 Kensington Ave., Jersey City
- Secretary . . . James W. Gopsill, 381 Fairmount Ave., Jersey City

Executive Committee, 1919

- Judge John A. Blair, Union League Club, Jersey City
- Charles F. Case, The Fairmount, Jersey City
- Gen. Wm. C. Heppenheimer, 291 Montgomery St., Jersey City
- Hon. Marshall Van Winkle, 100 Glenwood Ave., Jersey City
- Col. George T. Vickers, 22 Duncan Ave., Jersey City
- George C. Warren, Jr., 94 Kensington Ave., Jersey City
- William H. Richardson, 250 Union St., Jersey City
- James B. Throckmorton, 51 Glenwood Ave., Jersey City
- Dr. W. F. Randolph, 67 Kensington Ave., Jersey City
- Clarence M. Owens, 15 Clifton Terrace, Weehawken
- George J. McEwan, Summit Ave. and De Mott St., West Hoboken
- Willis J. Tuers, 21 Park St., Jersey City

Committee on Publication

- Hon. Marshall Van Winkle, John H. Ward, Col. George T. Vickers



Gift
Author
FEB 14 1919

The Activities of the Lincoln Association, 1867-1919

In the lines below, is compiled a list of the functions celebrated by the Lincoln Association from the earliest records available, down to the present time. It is subject, of course, to verification.

1867. Feb. 12. Zschau's Union House. Foundation. David W. Weiss, Benjamin Russell, Earl P. Lane, Prof. Charles Knowles, Charles Baker, Dietrich Kuhn, Peter Kolb, Charles A. Zschau.
- April 15. Zschau's Union House. Memorial and patriotic observance.
- May 3. Zschau's Union House. Organization. President, David W. Weiss; Vice President, Benjamin Russell; Secretary, Wm. B. Dunning; treasurer, Earl P. Lane; steward, Charles A. Zschau.
- Sept. 5. Zschau's Union House. Presentation of album to President Weiss.
- Oct. 3. Zschau's Union House. Theme, the Emancipation Proclamation.
- Nov. 7. Zschau's Union House. Social evening.
- Dec. 24. Library Hall. Largely attended Ball.
1868. Feb. 6. Zschau's Union House. Presentation of Watch to Secretary Dunning.

Annual Dinners:

	Date	Given at	President
1868.	Feb. 12.	Taylor's Hotel.	David W. Weiss
1869.	Feb. 12.	Cooper's Hall	David W. Weiss.
1870.	Feb. 12.	(no data)	David W. Weiss.
1871.	Feb. 12.	Zschau's Union House.	David W. Weiss.
1872.	Feb. 12.	Zschau's Union House.	David W. Weiss.
1873.	Feb. 12.	Zschau's Union House.	David W. Weiss.
1874.	Feb. 12.	Zschau's Union House.	David W. Weiss.
1875.	Feb. 12.	Zschau's Union House.	David W. Weiss.
1876.	Feb. 12.	Zschau's Union House.	David W. Weiss.
1877.	Feb. 12.	Philadelphia Hotel.	David W. Weiss.
1878.	Feb. 12.	Continental Hotel.	David W. Weiss.
1879.	Feb. 12.	Philadelphia Hotel.	Maj. David A. Peloubet.
1880.	Feb. 12.	Taylor's Hotel.	Maj. David A. Peloubet.
1881.	Feb. 11.	Taylor's Hotel.	James Gopsill.
1882.	Feb. 12.	Taylor's Hotel.	James Gopsill.
1883.	Feb. 12.	Taylor's Hotel.	James Gopsill.
1884.	Feb. 12.	Taylor's Hotel.	James Gopsill.
1885.	Feb. 12.	Taylor's Hotel.	John W. Pangborn.
1886.	Feb. 12.	Taylor's Hotel.	John W. Pangborn.
1887.	Feb. 11.	Taylor's Hotel.	John W. Pangborn.

Date	Given at	President
1888.	Feb. 13. Taylor's Hotel.	Hon. Gilbert Collins
1889.	Feb. 12. Taylor's Hotel.	Maj. Z. K. Pangborn.
1890.	Feb. 13. Taylor's Hotel.	Flavel McGee.
1891.	Feb. 12. Taylor's Hotel.	John A. Blair.
1892.	Feb. 12. Taylor's Hotel.	John A. Walker.
1893.	Feb. 13. Hotel Washington.	Charles F. Case.
1894.	Feb. 12. Hotel Washington.	Col. Asa W. Dickinson.
1895.	Feb. 12. Taylor's Hotel.	John M. Jones.
1896.	Feb. 12. Taylor's Hotel.	Simeon H. Smith.
1897.	Feb. 12. Taylor's Hotel.	Henry M. Nevius.
1898.	Feb. 12. Taylor's Hotel.	Col. Chas. W. Fuller
1899.	Feb. 13. Taylor's Hotel.	Col. Sheffield Phelps.
1900.	Feb. 12. Jersey City Club.	Joseph A. Dear.
1901.	Feb. 12. Jersey City Club.	George F. Perkins.
1902.	Feb. 12. Jersey City Club.	E. B. Bacon.
1903.	Feb. 12. Jersey City Club.	A. J. Newbury.
1904.	Feb. 12. Jersey City Club.	Harry Louderbough
1905.	Feb. 13. Jersey City Club.	Edmund Wilson.
1906.	Feb. 12. Jersey City Club.	Charles W. Parker.
1907.	Feb. 12. Jersey City Club.	James S. Erwin.
1908.	Feb. 12. Jersey City Club.	Dr. Henry Spence.
1909.	Feb. 12. Jersey City Club.	Marshall Van Winkle.

The 1909 function—the Centenary Dinner—was unusually brilliant and memorable.

1910.	Feb. 12. Jersey City Club.	Dr. Ulamor Allen.
1911.	Feb. 13. Jersey City Club.	Dr. Henry Snyder.
1912.	Feb. 12. Jersey City Club.	David R. Daly.
1913.	Feb. 12. Jersey City Club.	Dr. Gordon K. Dickinson.
1914.	Feb. 12. Jersey City Club.	James B. Vredenburg
1915.	Feb. 12. Jersey City Club.	Jus. Francis J. Swayze
1916.	Feb. 12. Jersey City Club.	Col. Austen Colgate.
1917.	Feb. 12. Jersey City Club.	Geo. C. Warren, Jr.
1918.	Feb. 12. Carteret Club.	Col. Geo. T. Vickers.
1919.	Feb. 12. Carteret Club.	Robert A. Alberts.

Secretaries.

Wm. B. Dunning.	from 1867 to 1877.
John W. Herbert, Jr.	from 1878 to 1884.
George J. Medole.	from 1885 to 1892.
Thomas Milburn Gopsill.	from 1893 to 1903.
Robert B. Gray.	from 1904 to 1912.
Robert A. Alberts.	from 1913 to 1918.
James W. Gopsill.	from 1919

Treasurers.

Earl P. Lane.	from 1867 to 1868.
Marmaduke Tilden.	from 1885 to 1904.
Otto H. Lohsen.	from 1905

A Few Words From a Pleased Committee

This little book owes its publication to two men, President Robert A. Alberts and Mr. William H. Richardson. The first suggestion that a little book showing the genesis of our Lincoln Association would be the best souvenir of our Victory Dinner came from Mr. Alberts; and his suggestion at once became a concrete plan when he stated that Mr. Richardson was the man to write the book. Our Committee on Publication was appointed to supervise the work; but our labor has been very slight indeed. When we read the proof submitted by Mr. Richardson, we found a well done and finished piece of work.

As this little book is read by our members, we are sure they will appreciate Mr. Richardson's industry and good judgment in the selection and arrangement of his material. His flowing narrative will be especially interesting to our older members; and our younger members will learn from the vivid pictures of local conditions in this little book much that they should know about the events of those older days when our country was at a great crisis comparable only with the great crisis that we have just passed. Mr. Richardson is entitled to the thanks of our Association for his well done labor of love; and it is our great pleasure to preface this little book with these few words of acknowledgment and to sincerely thank him in the name of the Lincoln Association.

The Committee also gratefully acknowledges the courtesy of one of our members, Mr. E. F. Chilton, of the Standard Engraving Company, New York, who has taken personal interest in the production of the full page engravings with which this souvenir is embellished.

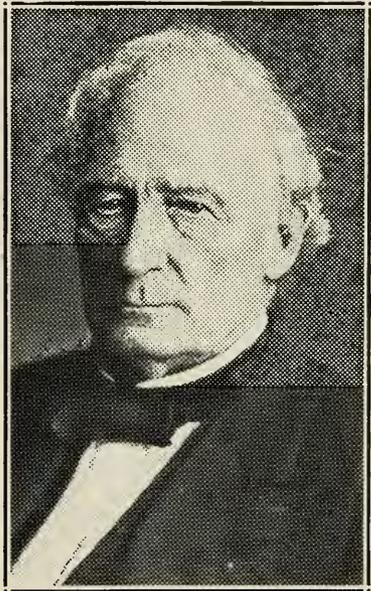
MARSHALL VAN WINKLE, *Chairman*
GEORGE T. VICKERS
JOHN H. WARD

Committee on Publication.

The "Makings" of the Lincoln Association

According to the literature of the Lincoln Association of Jersey City, we are contemplating this evening, the "fifty-fourth Annual Banquet" of this time-honored organization. One would think that in more than half a century of forensic endeavor, with all the wealth of mental culture that has been concentrated upon the life of Abraham Lincoln and the lessons to be drawn from it, there would hardly be a phase left that had a shade of novelty in it. However, it has seemed to me that a story of the times of Abraham Lincoln, and about the people of Jersey City who believed in him—as well as about some who did not—would be of interest, and might be helpful in another great crisis in human history. For we do forget. So I have chosen for the title of the story "The 'Makings' of the Lincoln Association," in which I want to present as vivid a picture as possible of the conditions under which the Lincoln ideal was nurtured in Jersey City.

Just where to start the story is very difficult to say. Jersey City was chartered February 22, 1838; her first mayor, and her first citizen for a long, long lifetime, was born in Connecticut, and was eminent in the work of the American Colonization Society. Dudley S. Gregory's acquaintance with the principles that Abraham Lincoln was going to die for, was more than theoretical that far back. The politics of the time were already effervescing with the oratory of the Anti-Slavery Societies. Henry D. Holt had started his *Jersey City Advertiser* and *Bergen Republican* in 1838, and was printing stories now and then about the iniquitous commerce in the blacks, and for years his voice and pen were active in the cause which came to a climax a little more than a score of years later.



Hon. Dudley S. Gregory

It will be pertinent to refer to the decidedly forward program of the forty-six members of the Particular Baptist Church of Jersey City and Harsimus, who withdrew from that select institution in 1842, to found a new Baptist Church with this covenant: "A slave-holder, or one who traffics in human flesh, is not a fit member for a Gospel Church; it would be sinful for one to sit down and commune with him." Then there was a little company of Congregationalists who worshipped at the southeast corner of Grove Street and Railroad Avenue, on part of what is J. W. Greene's present building site, most all of them so far as we can give locality to family names, originating in New England, who were exponents of the ideas of Wm. Lloyd Garrison. So it may be readily seen that The Foundation Company which later merged into the Lincoln Association was here as long as Jersey City.

Without filling in pages of testimony to support the argument, I may say briefly that the cult did not grow any less feeble in Jersey City than anywhere else. Coming rapidly down the years to the time of those famous debates with Douglas, we find in the *Telegraph*, the local democratic newspaper, the following singularly unprophetic introduction of Abraham Lincoln: "Lincoln, who should thereafter be known as the brainless Bob O'Link of the Prairies * * * has succeeded in making a Jay of himself and his chattering will be appreciated accordingly." Well, history somehow has vindicated the champion of human rights and liberties!

Speaking of Douglas' reference to Lincoln's having started life in a grocery, the same local authority solemnly informs us that "in Illinois as in many other parts of the west, 'grocery' is synonymous with 'groggery.'" Other issues of about the same era tell us that Wm. Lloyd Garrison was an "abolitionist and atheist"—how smoothly that alliterative allusion must have slid from the Telegraphic pen! Fred Douglass was always referred to as a "nigger;" a gentleman, afterward slightly renowned in American journalism, was commonly called the "arch-nigger of the *Tribune*." Here is a little jingle published January 19, 1857, to help the cause along:

"Othello is the negro race,
Iago is their Greeley!
And if the darkies follow him
He'll bamboozle them ginteelley!"

Perhaps the reason Iago put it over was that the "darkies" couldn't or wouldn't read the *Telegraph* and be led to avert the bamboozlement. Prominent exponents of the New Thought in democracy—Wright, Phillips, Higginson, Foster, Tappan, Garrison, *et al.*—were editorially

consigned "to cells in the lunatic asylum where they should be locked until satan should come to escort them to Brimstonedom."

Henry D. Holt's paper then was known as the *Sentinel*; he was its "black republican" editor and he was a man of whom we can well be proud when we recount the hot times in the old town of three score years ago; when the *Telegraph* was jammed with utterances of inconceivable rankness. "That eminent humbug, the learned blacksmith, one of the most impudent meddlers in the Union," gets his one day, also; Horace Greeley, William H. Seward and John Brown were burned in effigy by certain Princeton students in 1859, and the pleasantry was deliciously commented upon. On another occasion the editor labels and lambasts his political opposites, as "Abolitionists, Atheists, Deists, Infidels and other advocates of idiotic schemes of disunion, anarchy and treason."

When John Brown's raid and its tragic consequences got into the *Telegraph*, it featured that side of the story that somebody or bodies in Jersey City must have wanted to read: the offer of South Carolinians who wanted John Brown hung with a home-grown cotton rope; the anxiety of Mrs. Mahala Doyle to bathe her hands in his blood, and her sending a halter woven by her slaves for his execution. A Unitarian church was then located at the southeast corner of Montgomery and Grove Streets; its minister was Rev. O. B. Frothingham. He was quite as radical in his views as the *Telegraph*—only from another angle—and once Mr. Frothingham said some things in a public address which prompted the following comment in the newspaper: "Mr. Frothingham came to us from a witch-burning region, but we had hoped that the pure union atmosphere (!) of Jersey City might lead him to forsake the error of his ways. * * * The Black Republican Preacher wishes to free any and every nigger even at the expense of the church, the Constitution, the Union, and even the lives and property of every white man in the country who dares to differ with him in opinion. Thank God there is room in our State Lunatic Asylum for such crazy fanatics." The "Frothyham" church was set on fire about that time and the Unitarians had very excellent reasons for believing that it was of incendiary origin; the *Telegraph* sought, on the other hand, to prove a "copperhead" alibi, with the same success that Lady Macbeth did, for protesting too much.

There was a "recognition" of the Bethesda Baptist Anti-Slavery and Free Mission Church on July 11, 1858, and the *Telegraph* reports that "the sentiments preached there would be quite appropriate in an assembly of Black Republicans, but out of place in a pulpit on the Lord's Day. It appears to have become the fashion of late with preachers

to close their bibles and devote their time to the temporal welfare of niggers and nigger lovers.”

Father J. Kelly, Pastor of St. Peter's, 82 Grand St., had an advertisement in the *Telegraph* of September 3, 1857, certifying to the fact that “Elizabeth Daniel had not been married to the mulatto John Bravvery and that the rumor against Thomas Doyle and his wife, and which unfortunately has exposed them to the peril of their lives is false.”

Henry Ward Beecher lectured in Metropolitan Hall, December 15, 1858, for the benefit of the Firemen's Fund; the *Telegraph* characterized the lecture as “savoring somewhat of niggerism”—which is probably just what it did if Henry Ward Beecher's faculties were functioning properly in 1858. These are but a few more instances to prove the need of the coming Lincoln Association, at least!

The 1860 Campaign

Before the Lincoln campaign of 1860, the *Telegraph* was succeeded—and superseded in capacity for scurrility—by the *American Standard*, why so named one may well wonder if he should ever take occasion to peruse its files. In that campaign it supported John Bell of Tennessee for President, and Edward Everett of Massachusetts for Vice-President—with the tremendously important historical effect of contributing to the election of Abraham Lincoln. That result, however, owed little of its importance to this State; the *Standard* ungraciously showed its feelings in a long editorial in which it lauded “New Jersey: faithful among the faithless, she alone of all the free states has been mindful of the advice of Washington and has arrayed herself against the geographical and sectional party his prescience foresaw.” Perhaps we may find a claim in that sentence that may reasonably connect us with the Father of our Country, too. Right underneath that same editorial it publishes a reprint from the *Churchman* of New York, reviewing and applauding the scriptural arguments for the institution of slavery.

Passing over the months of the excessively vituperative campaign which resulted in the election of Lincoln, and contemplating his journey to Washington for inauguration, doubtless there are some present to-night who will recall his reception in Jersey City when he passed through here on February 21, 1861. One of the papers was unkind enough to recall the tenor of New Jersey's voting when commenting upon the stupendous crowds gathered to greet the President-elect. Mr. Lincoln had come over from New York on the new ferryboat *Jackson* under special command of Commodore Woolsey, superintendent of the ferry. Dodworth's Celebrated Cotillion Band, a famous musical aggre-

gation of the day, was on board and discoursed appropriate music. When the boat was in the middle of the river Asdmn. Hardenbergh made a neat speech, which was reported in full, while Mr. Lincoln is said to have replied in "a few apt words," which were not printed in full.

In the throng on the *Jackson*, Mr. Lincoln recognized and chatted with Hon. D. S. Gregory, who had been his colleague in Congress. A pleasing incident is recorded of his having stooped over to kiss "the infant daughter of the late T. L. Smith," and saying as he did so, "we cheerfully welcome the little lambs." I have often wondered who and where the infant daughter of the late T. L. Smith is now and whether she had infant daughters to whom she could tell the pretty story!

When the Presidential party arrived at the station there was an ovation. Judge William L. Dayton welcomed Mr. Lincoln to New Jersey with a very able address, and to that Mr. Lincoln replied, together with some remarks that did not get into print: "Ladies and Gentlemen of the State of New Jersey: I shall only very briefly thank you for the very warm and kind reception you have given me, and I shall try to make myself heard if possible. Not that I thank you personally for the reception, but only as the temporary representative of a great nation. I have been met in the same way all through my journey, and as I had often to do in other places, I am sure you will not feel dissatisfied with me for merely greeting you with a sincere farewell for the present. You have met me through your own kind and valued friend Judge Dayton, a man who is an honor to any State in this great Union, and who has said enough to include my own response if I had not uttered a word. Most heartily do I endorse every sentiment he has expressed; and I sincerely trust you will find me everything which the present interest of the country demands."

It was rather a modest speech for the man who had crossed swords with the giant Douglas! As he closed his brief acknowledgment, Mr. Lincoln's attention was directed to the balconies of the station, crowded with elegantly dressed ladies, "an unbroken array of the youth, beauty and intelligence of Jersey City." So he expressed his admiration of the spectacle and put a graceful period to his talk by a playful allusion to a familiar political topic of the day, avowing his readiness to recommend compromises with women; but with men—never!

Presently the party was ushered into the special train for the South. The locomotive *William Pennington* drew it, ornate with

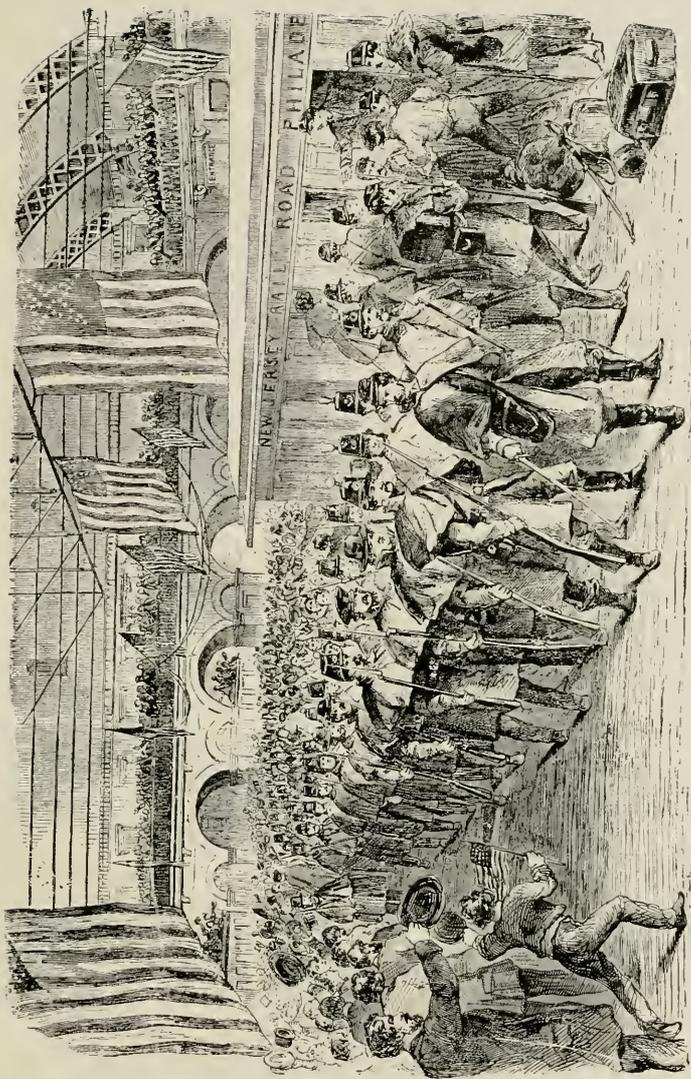
Mr.
Lincoln's
Jersey City
Address

flags and bunting; Abraham Condit was the engineer; a son of Superintendent Woodruff was the honorary stoker. The car of honor was a new one but recently finished in the New Jersey Railroad car shops, and beautifully furnished and upholstered by Earle & Co. of this city. A notable feature was its luxurious sofas. Before reaching Washington the news of a threatened attempt upon Mr. Lincoln's life caused a diversion in his journey by a more circuitous route, and that furnished no end of ribaldry in unfriendly newspapers. The *Standard* gloated for years over the Scotch cap and cloak in which he was alleged to have been disguised from Harrisburg to Washington.

When Lincoln was inaugurated the *Standard* professed itself bored at being compelled to perform a professional duty in publishing a document which "as a literary production was unworthy many a schoolboy, while as an interesting effort it has nothing to rescue it from mediocrity." Such was the monumental pronouncement, rendered after elaborate analysis and discussion, upon the great inaugural address, which in most men's minds to-day ranks as the most profound presentation of the momentous issues ever advanced. What a sight for the ages! Lincoln standing there before the Capitol, surrounded by enemies, unafraid, and yet pleading with all the fervor of his masterly logic that they should know what they were about to do. And after they had gone out from that presence, with the pleading climax of his peroration sounding in their ears, they chose to forget what he said about "the mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land."

In the lines written before this I have endeavored to develop the idea that there were in Jersey City certain groups of citizenship, rather diminutive, perhaps, that came into existence as the logical reaction against the wrongs that might be laid to differences of political opinion. History has shown us, however, how these wrongs struck at the heart of the Nation, and how, in the progress of events the proponents of these divergent views became arrayed on one side or the other until the vortex of the Civil War engulfed them. The idea of a war to settle these differences was then an unbelievable thing; early in 1861 the local paper commented complacently upon the "secession cockades" that certain gentlemen, names not given, wore in their hats upon Jersey City's streets: nobody prepared for war as the way to discourage their decorating themselves. But the moment came when dealing academically with slavery and secession was done away with forever.

The President's proclamation declaring the Southern states in rebellion and calling for 75,000 militia from loyal states was published



No. 25.—THE SIXTH REGIMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS LEAVING JERSEY CITY IN A DEPARTURE FROM WASHINGTON, N. B. C. APRIL 18th 1861

[Courtesy Free Public Library]
The Massachusetts 6th Entraining in Jersey City, April 18th, 1861

here April 15, 1861. Several other interesting news items were published in the same issue of the paper. A coasting schooner had come up the river and anchored off the city, somewhere near the foot of Essex Street. A palmetto flag flew from her mast-head. Some soot-stained patriots from the Dummer glassworks saw the objectionable emblem and rowed out to the schooner. The clump, clump, of their iron nailed shoes across the deck awakened the captain, and he was given the choice of hauling down the ensign and breaking out Old Glory in its place, or having his boat sunk. He saved his ship.

At the close of an enthusiastic Union meeting in the Hudson House, the crowd swept up the street and jeered and booed before the newspaper office, 23 and 25 Montgomery Street, and then went to the homes of its publishers for the same sort of a serenade, because the sheet had maligned the Government and the proprietors would not put up our flag. I know the names of two—Henry D. Holt and C. H. Dummer—who assisted in the festivities of the evening.

On April 18th, the Massachusetts volunteers, 1,000 strong were entrained at lower Montgomery Street to the rhythm of martial music, the cheer of loyal songs, the flutter of countless flags; they passed on into history: the next day, the anniversary of Lexington, occurred the tragedy at Baltimore. They were the first of many, many more thousands, to start on that Great Adventure, the magnitude of which none could dream and the end of which none could foresee. And 55 years afterward on June 21, 1916, those of our own circle of friendships, the old Fourth and the Signal Corps marched no less proudly down the same street, were embarked at almost the same spot, and were swept away into the mist that cleared away presently and revealed our part in the greatest adventure in all human history.



Rev. John Milton Holmes

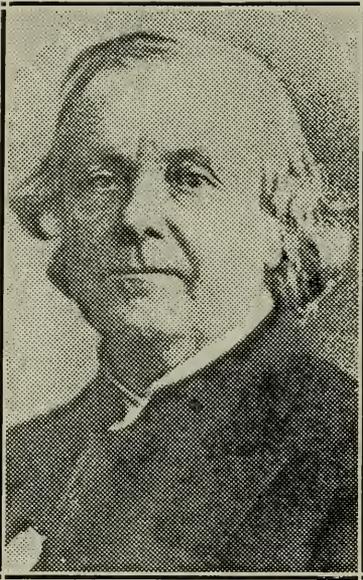
By a strange co-ordination of news incidents, the account of these soldier sons of Pilgrim fathers was printed immediately above a few line notice telling of the unanimous calling to the First Congregational Church of John Milton Holmes. Without reflecting upon other churches in the town, it may be said that the incident was of very great moment



Lincoln Reading the Emancipation Proclamation to His Cabinet
(The original of this picture hung in the Tabernacle for many years)

to Jersey City. He preached a sermon the Sunday night after the Baltimore affair that stirred the town to its depths, and it was given the very unusual attention of being published in full in the *Courier and Advertiser* "at the request of hearers who were electrified and delighted by its noble sentiments and splendid delivery." It is beautiful reading to-day, and the magnificent work done by this splendid soldier of the Cross in Jersey City in the few years of his intensive devotion should be known and acclaimed by every school child.

With great emphasis, therefore, I beg to present the name of John Milton Holmes as one who helped prodigiously to make the Lincoln Association possible. We cannot read the newspapers, both kinds, if you please, without being gripped by the sublimity of his devotion to the Lincoln ideal; and by the time that the Tabernacle, "with a flag pole for its steeple and the Union emblem for its weather vane," was dedicated, two years later, the people of Jersey City were pretty well accustomed to the brand of politics preached by its minister. He believed in Lincoln. "Every citizen who failed to uphold the honor of the flag was an abettor of treason and should suffer the penalty due to his crime;" that was an oft repeated declaration to the great audiences he attracted. So we have the two partisans. To one Lincoln meant a bloody war and a wicked waste of human life, and an interference with the inherent rights of the people; to the other Lincoln meant an ideal of human freedom, Union in a great Nation that should be one and indivisible. Both believed utterly in their principles. It is hardly necessary to comment upon that branch of the Lincoln Association



Rev. Wheelock H. Parmly

that was always in session at the Tabernacle, and attended by loyal people from other congregations, including their "Yankee" preachers, for example, Rev. W. H. Parmly of the Baptist Church, the clergymen of the M. E. Church, and others.

"The President's opinion that slavery is the cause of the war" was regarded by the *Standard* of December 3, 1862, "as a fundamental error," and he was solemnly adjured to make "well directed efforts to save our tottering nation." I have gone through the files of the local paper pretty thoroughly, for I should really like to discover what sort of well-directed efforts, what constructive thoughts it might have advanced, in the way of winning the war, if there was any such purpose bound up in its program of saving the nation.

Henry Ward Beecher would not have to explain to any fairly well informed audience what his program was during the Civil War, yet he was arraigned in Jersey City as one who "professes to be a Christian and yet invokes God and Christ to carry on butchery for the sake of humanity. Impious fool!" Nor would Wendell Phillips have difficulty in convincing any one of his war-time beliefs, yet he was pilloried here as the "arch-agitator who according to his own admission has been laboring twenty years to dissolve the Union." Neither will it harm the reputation of Dr. George B. Cheever, to quote an editorial opinion about him as the "reverend, fanatical, hypocritical, treason-breeding Cheever * * * who envenomed our atmosphere of loyalty by his foul breath, this sainted preacher of discord and the higher law, who prostituted the high purposes of an ambassador of the truth of Christ."

Probably only a few of my gray-haired readers will recall the stirring scenes enacted in the Tabernacle, that historic building at the corner of York and Henderson Streets. I want to allude to one of them at this juncture, because it so completely illustrates the state of the public mind at a most critical period in the life of Lincoln. The annual meeting of the First Congregational Society was on the point of adjournment on March 26, 1863, when Hon. D. S. Gregory arose to ask the approval of the society to action already taken by the Building

Committee in granting permission to use the almost finished auditorium of the Tabernacle for the definite purpose of forming a Union League.

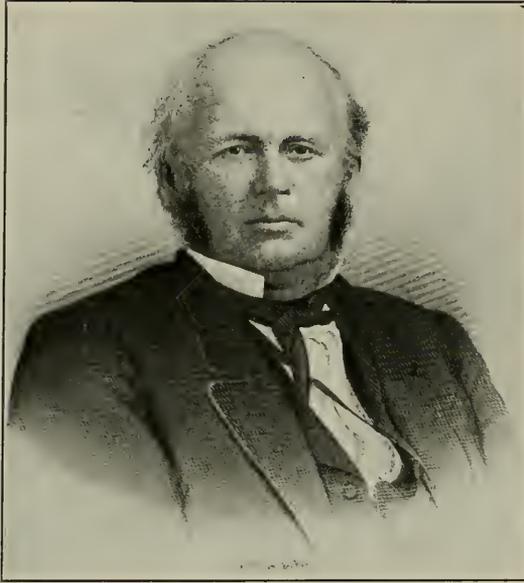
The local papers indicate that the approval was voted, for the following advertisement appeared for the next few days: "One People, One Country, One Destiny. The loyal people of Jersey City without distinction of Party are invited to attend a meeting to be held in the new Tabernacle, corner York and Henderson Streets, on Monday evening, March 30, 1863, at half past seven o'clock, for the purpose of expressing their devotion to the Constitution and the Union of the United States, and their firm determination to uphold the authority of the Government and enforce the laws. Addresses by Hon. James T. Brady, Hon. James Wadsworth, Wm. Allen Butler, Esqr., and E. M. Dickerson, Esqr. Seats reserved for ladies. A patriotic ode will be sung, accompanied by the organ."

The Union
League
Founded

Well, the meeting was held, according to schedule. The only thing that stops me from printing in full the *Standard's* account of what it called "A Republican League Meeting" is the fear of the committee that will have to audit the printer's bill. It was rich, from one end to the other. Curiosity to see and hear James T. Brady, "the captured copperhead;" a copious display of rockets and other fireworks; the packing of the meeting with members of the M. E. Conference then in session in the city; the presence of a gallery full of ladies "guarded at each door by one of their number of the 'strong minded persuasion.'" Whatever the reasons the great auditorium was jammed, at any rate.

Alexander H. Wallis called the meeting to order, and nominated Hon. Dudley S. Gregory for chairman. Then Mr. Gregory led the way to the platform, followed by Ephraim Marsh, Esq., H. M. Traphagen, Peter Bentley, Robt. Gilchrist, E. M. Dickerson, Esq., of Paterson, Revs. R. L. Dashiell (Trinity M. E.), John Milton Holmes and Wheelock H. Parmly. Wm. C. Traphagen was appointed Secretary. Rev. Mr. Dashiell opened the meeting with an eloquent prayer. Then Mr. Holmes was called upon to explain the object of the meeting—which he did by blandly reading a clipping from the *New York Express*, in which the Unionists, Abolitionists, the Congregationalists, etc., were just shot to pieces with copperhead rhetoric.

Mr. Holmes submitted for adoption by the meeting, a set of resolutions declaring for the manifestation of the highest patriotism at this time. He quoted Whitefield about there being no sect in Heaven, and so "we come together to-night to consecrate this house to the God of our fathers, standing on one platform to crush out rebellion.



Peter Bentley

As to the cry of peace, when the last rebel is driven into the Gulf of Mexico, then we can thank God for peace." Notwithstanding the *Standard* said no question was put, and no action was taken upon the resolutions, they were adopted. The Loyal League was formed, for the *Standard* published a number of ribald references to the organization later.

The meeting must have been a most uproarious one. Mr. Dickerson was interrupted in his speech when he quoted a letter from Charleston, S. C., dated some four months before the war, predicting a northern and a southern confederacy. The interrupter wanted the name of the writer and in the confusion of hisses and cheers, a cry was raised, "put him out!" And he did get put out. Further turmoil was caused by another "conscientious objector" when James T. Brady, afterward one of the most famous criminal lawyers in America, started to speak. William Harney got up, and in his big voice, demanded that that secessionist be removed before Mr. Brady began. But Mr. Harney froze the genial current of the obnoxious soul, and then Mr. Brady went through with that classical address of his, clear to the climax when he declared that "by the strength and power of the great Author of the universe the Union must and shall be preserved."

Since the Civil War, we have at least learned to estimate at something like their true value the battle of Gettysburg and the surrender of Vicksburg. Of course this could not be computed at the time, but on July 4, 1863, they certainly added a little more spirit to the civic celebration of Independence Day, which was officially appointed by Common Council for the Tabernacle. A National salute at sunrise of 35 guns by the Hudson County Artillery, a general house to house decoration with flags, and the ringing of church and fire-bells, marked the day outside; in the Tabernacle, the celebration started at 12.30 with Mayor Romar presiding. Alderman Gafney, Rev. Dr. Parmly and Rev. John Milton Holmes participated in the exercises. Dudley S. Gregory, Jr., led the patriotic singing; A. S. Hatch read the Declaration of Independence and Rev. Sam. B. Bell of the Reformed Dutch Church made a spirited patriotic address.

But the import of the tremendous news from Gettysburg and Vicksburg commenced to sink in in the next few days and so another town celebration was appointed for that. The *Times* of July 6th, 7th and 8th fairly reeked with the news of victory, and it was decided to congregate in the Tabernacle for public thanksgiving for the turn in the fortunes of our armies. There was something said in print at the time, about the reasons why there had been no opportunity for such a celebration before; and that did not set well with the *Standard*. However, Peter Bentley presided over the meeting appointed for July 8th, in gratitude for the "affluence of joyful tidings." Rev. John Milton Holmes, Rev. Sam B. Bell, Joseph Hoxie were among the speakers; the *Standard* says that Horace Greeley made "a few congratulatory remarks;" while the *New York World* which was not what you might call friendly to H. G., said this of his eloquence: "The great blow which General Grant has struck against the rebellion at Vicksburg was celebrated last night by a still mightier 'blow' in Jersey City." The program of exercises, the *Standard* said, was forced down the people's throats!

Out on the streets that Wednesday night, there was some time, too. Down in Washington Square they were firing a salute of 100 guns; the bells of the city were rung from 6 to 7 P. M.; Colgate's soap works, Taylor's Hotel, Black's trunk factory, the ferry house, and many other business places were gorgeously illuminated; Dodworth's Celebrated Cotillion Band played at the City Hall until 8.30, when it was time to go to the Tabernacle and contribute to the enthusiasm of that function. But to find out about it you must go to the *Times*, not the *Standard*.

An
Historic
Flag

Among the decorations in this room to-night is a tattered flag, and it is a high privilege for us to contemplate it in connection with the narrative we have just been discussing. When the story of Gettysburg and Vicksburg came, Mr. Holmes thought the Tabernacle ought to have a flag as a proper adjunct to its celebration, so he started out with a subscription list and got these names upon it: Rev. John Milton Holmes, \$5; P. L. Snyder, \$5; A. S. Hatch, \$5; Winslow Ames, \$2; William Spaulding Taylor, \$1; E. H. Adams, \$1; Thomas H. Bouden, \$1; S. C. M. Allen, \$3; M. S. Douglass, \$1; Thomas Potter, Jr., \$5; D. S. Gregory, Jr., \$5; William A. Durrie, \$3; J. M. Goddard, \$1; Henry D. Holt, \$1; Philo H. Prindle, \$1; A. M. Clerihew, \$1; cash, 50 cents; William Harney, \$1; Mr. Merriman, 50 cents; S. A. Frost, \$1; Noyes P. Dennison, \$1; Charles H. Johnson, \$2; Mrs. C. H. Shaw, \$1; Mrs. N. M. Shaw, \$1; Mr. Cander, \$1; Homer Brooks, \$1; Peter H. Kline, \$1; W. W. Ingersoll, \$1; William H. Duryea, \$1; John B. Moffat, \$1; George Kingsland, \$1.50; Chauncey Holt, \$1. Then there was another name on the list (which I know) marked "payment refused." The flag money amounted to \$57.50.

Most of these names have disappeared from Jersey City history—but the Lincoln Association may well honor them to-night, as we think upon that patriotic roster of splendid citizens who were loyal in darker days than these, and dwell upon what they endured in the times when union and abolition were not quite as "fashionable" doctrines as they became later on. The flag was not ready for the big civic night of July 8th, so it was not dedicated until the next night. After preliminary devotional exercises in the church, the congregation repaired to the street; Mr. Holmes mounted an extemporized platform and gave a classical address on "The Flag." Then as every eye was fixed upon it, this very flag above us to-night, was slowly hoisted into place; a cannon boomed, and the audience broke into cheers for Meade, Grant and President Lincoln, and three times three for the Union. This banner was one of the most cherished relics of the Tabernacle and was always in evidence at the countless functions afterward held in that historic edifice. After the dispersion of the Tabernacle people the flag has been in the custody of the Free Public Library, whose courtesy in loaning it for this occasion is most gratefully acknowledged.

Draft
Riot
Days

The synchronism of the "invasion of the north" and what is commonly known as the "draft riots" of July 13, 14 and 15, 1863, has been pretty well established, I believe. Terrible as they were, they were

The Undersigned Agree to pay the Sum
 annexed to their names for the purchase
 of a National Flag for the Tabernacle.

John M. Holmes	Paid	5.00	Wm. H. Harny	1.00
T. L. Snyder	Paid	5.00	Mr. Memorial	.50
A. S. Hatch	Paid	5.00	O. Mr. Frost	1.00
W. Ames	Paid	2.00	O. W. P. Dennis	1.00
W. J. Taylor	Paid	1.00	Chas. Johnson	2.00
E. H. Adams	Paid	1.00	Wm. & H. Shaw	1.00
J. Zouren	Paid	1.00	Mrs. N. M. Shaw	1.00
S. C. M. Allen	Paid	3.00	P. M. Candee	1.00
M. S. Douglass	Paid	1.00	H. Brooks	1.00
Thos. Potter	Paid	5.00	Kline	1.00
D. Gregory	Paid	5.00	J. Ingersoll	1.00
Wm. A. Sumner	Paid	3.00	Dunfee	1.00
Wm. Gooday	Paid	1.00	J. Moffat	1.00
H. D. Holt	Paid	1.00	Leo Kengaland	1.50
A. H. Smith	Paid	1.00		
A. M. Cliverson	Paid	1.00		
Cash	Paid	.50	Pd. C. Holt	1.00
			Edward Wagoner	4.00

really intended as part of a much more pretentious demonstration which the events of Gettysburg interfered with. In Jersey City, according to the *Standard* everything was quiet; just a few boys prowling around burning stables; the "nigger" population was so terrified that they left their homes and took refuge for days, old men and women and little babies, in Currie's woods, and the woods fringing the heights of the city; two companies of the 74th New York stopped over in Jersey City for several days; a gun-boat and a cutter, armed with howitzers and with marines aboard, dropped anchor off Secor's shipyard, where monitors were being built; a mob surrounded the Tabernacle and threatened to



Chauncey Holt.

burn it down if some fugitive blacks said to be secreted in the top of the building were not turned over to them (Chauncey Holt placed his axle-handle souvenir of the defense in the Free Public Library many years afterward); Pastor Holmes was on the roof with a pile of bricks before him, promising the mob some droppings from the sanctuary if they did not disperse. But generally speaking, the town, according to the *Standard*, "continues quiet, without any fear that the peace will be disturbed!"

A certain gentleman who was a candidate for an important civic position a little less than two years later advertised his reasons for deserving the votes of his fellows, and incidentally illuminated the subject for us: "The people will not readily forget one who has acted as their friend in so important a matter as the draft, and who has faithfully striven, in season and out, early and late, to keep them with their families." He was elected on that platform in 1865; people have disappeared from social life in 1918 for a great deal less than that!

It is difficult indeed to imagine how such a pandering to the taste of a clientele, whether real or supposed, could be tolerated. With the growing enormity of the victory in the two great campaigns in mind, and the surprising manifestation of power against the lawlessness of the metropolitan mob as a new inspiration, the *Standard's* psychology takes a curious tack. On July 25, 1863, with a circus performance imminent, it prints the following pleasant notice: "The Two Clowns. —Two clowns, Dan Rice and Abe Lincoln receive for their services the same salary, \$25,000 a year. While the latter furnishes nothing

but a few stale jokes, unintelligible speeches and useless proclamations, Dan gives the benefit of his name to a large establishment, the use of his beautiful horse, Excelsior, and his educated mules, etc." Whether that bit of editorial courtesy ever helped Dan, I do not know, but a press ticket to a circus looks like a high price to pay for it.

When the time came, a few months later, to write up the story of the exercises incident to the dedication of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg, we do not have to imagine that there was no expression of any indication of immortality in the address which is now on the tongue of every schoolboy in the land. Edward Everett's oration, of course, was the thing "that was listened to with marked attention," and he said a great deal which it would hurt the *Standard* to print, so abstracts of it only were published. Lincoln wisely wrote; he could not be condensed; and so, what it calls his "dedicatory speech" was printed in full.

All through the campaign of 1864, the *Standard* voiced the same bitter animosity. It grew frantic in July, 1864, over the terms addressed "To whom it may concern" in that famous Niagara conference. The basis of a total abolition of slavery was preposterous, as Mr. Lincoln would discover when he scanned the election returns on November 8th. It published the names of two New Jersey newspapers whose editors, it reported, had been arrested for publishing articles antagonistic to the draft—Mr. Winton of the *Bergen County Democrat* at Hackensack, and O. C. Cone of the *Somerset Messenger*. And then it reprinted the article attributed to the *Bergen County Democrat*: "Let the press speak out in opposition to this merciless conscription, which has no other end than to secure the election of Abraham Lincoln for another term of four years or for life. There's no pretext now that the administration are at all desirous of restoring the Union and the Constitution. Why then should the people be dragged from their homes at the beck of a tyrant and a usurper, to murder and destroy those with whom they should be at peace?" That was the way the bolsheviki of 55 years ago talked about the President!

Kind
Words
in '64

When Lincoln was re-nominated the *Standard* condensed the story of the historic Baltimore convention into a few lines like this: "A. Lincoln, Esq., father of his country, vice Geo. Washington, deceased, has accepted the nomination. The acceptance was accompanied by the usual 'I am reminded of a story,' which is, of course, too stupid to bear repetition." All through the summer and fall of '64, its readers were regaled by diatribes of inconceivable depravity; the President

and his cabinet were referred to as "Abraham the fanatic and his 'Red Republican' maniacs smeared all over with the blood of the innocent;" stories telling of outrages alleged to have been perpetrated by negro soldiers, with the scenario usually laid in some stately old Southern home, with the few remaining women as the victims, were dished up. They were not very wholesome narratives, but they were recommended to Mr. Lincoln as sources of "new material for his obscene jokes." That splendidly self-sacrificing group of men known as the Christian Commission was sneered at in this wise: "Where their conversation is once upon God and eternity it is a thousand times on abolition and Abe Lincoln." John Milton Holmes was one of the "C. C." men meant by the *Standard*. He had spent three months with Sherman's army, and was never well again, as the result of the privations he endured.

Another series of articles was intended to show how the President had "attempted to make the public treasury pay a personal bill of \$2,500." As the bill involved White House crockery, and as Mr. Lincoln was not charged with any particular measure of success in the attempt, we may well wonder what the *Standard* would have done if he had actually gotten away with it! Here is a choice bit of verse, only one stanza of three, printed on October 21, 1864, under the title, "Lincoln, the widow maker and Hell's outrider:"

"We are coming, flatboat tyrant, in mourning goods and tears;
To hear your stories and your jokes, we trust no more for years!

We are coming, widow maker, from prairie home and glen,

A half a million widows of slowly murdered men.

We are coming, sadly coming, as the world can plainly see,

Not to save the Union, but the contraband to free!"

And here is another choice specimen from the *Standard's* anthology of campaign poetry:

"There is an old man of Sangamon

Who has furnished us battle and famine;

His war for the nigger grows bigger and bigger—

Poor, deluded, old man of Sangamon!"

There was a Lincoln torchlight parade in Paterson on October 27, '64, and the Jersey City "Lincoln Club" was in the line. The *Standard* learns that "the president of the club was arrested and put under bonds for having committed an aggravated assault upon a young man. He is a fit representative of the party to which he belongs." Don't you wonder the Lincoln Clubbers didn't commit a few murders! Perhaps the original of the button I am permitted to reproduce from

the Free Public Library museum was worn at that Paterson party. Dr. Gordon K. Dickinson could not verify that, but he does verify the fact that it was worn by a very staunch Lincoln man by the name of W. L. Dickinson, all honor to him! "Vote for Lincoln, if you want war taxes, starvation, abolition and a dissevered Union," was the final adjuration just the day before election.



A Lincoln '64 Campaign Button.

A coarse joke was perpetrated upon a loyal out-of-town newspaper for printing the following sonnet addressed to "Abraham Lincoln." It reads, apparently, like a very high tribute to the President:

Lincoln! be firm and fear not; bigot men
 In vain assail thee with their senseless word:
 Nor heed the slaves to party and their lies
 Conveying censure. The historians pen—
 Oh, wand of magic! shall destroy the sneers,
 Laughter and carping of the would-be wise,
 Not in the future shall their voice be heard
 In making up its judgment on these years.
 Second to few patriots in esteem,
 And sorer tried than many thou hast been;
 Now few the stars that through the darkness gleam,
 And not as yet are signs of daylight seen—
 Soon stars shall come, and when these pass away,
 Shall gleam the light that marks thy coming, glorious day!

S. Oldcheap.

The *Standard* chortled over the thing: Why, the name of the author should have been enough. What a sell! And sold cheap, too! Anybody of ordinary intelligence should have seen the story in the initials of the first lines! Still, even the best intended effort sometimes fails, in war as well as in poetry: S. Oldcheap didn't intend to be, but he turned out a fair prophet after all.

Now that we have suggested some depths of the depravity of that campaign, let us turn for a moment to contemplate some of the high spots of that turbulent period. Standing out with the brilliancy of an illuminated cross against the darkness of night, is the report of a convention of Congregational ministers in the Tabernacle on September 21, 1864. A newspaper was handed the moderator while the session was on; he held up his hand to get the silence and attention of the assemblage and then he read the glorious news of Sheridan's victory over Early. The audience broke into tumultuous applause, and gradually a voice, then others and others, caught up the swing of "Praise God from whom all blessings flow!" Shortly afterward, the conference

News of
 Sheridan's
 Victory

formulated and adopted unanimously a set of five resolutions calling upon their people to go to the polls next November 8th, and make the decision that will be "final and fatal to the hopes of traitors in arms and of conspirators in political councils." Mr. Holmes preached two red-hot sermons shortly thereafter on the subject of the election. He was not exactly an exponent of the theory that ministers should play neutrality in politics; "our actions now should be such that we might relate to our children's children that we fought with Grant or Sherman in the Union War; or that in the great election of 1864, when the Peace Democracy were plotting with the Rebels and a man named McClellan was carrying their flag, we did what we could to help the boys in front of Richmond and deposited in the sacred ark of freedom a ballot for the Nation's life."

There was a great "Union Rally" held on November 1, 1864. The *Times* tells us that "the Tabernacle, besides being decorated with the fair forms and bright eyes of the Union ladies, was appropriately dressed with National flags and beautiful flowers." The speakers were General Cary of Ohio, Walter Rutherford, Esq., L. E. Chittenden, and John Milton Holmes. Master Hendershott "of drumming fame" called the meeting to attention with the long roll, and John Owen Rouse made a stirring speech when he nominated Mr. Holmes as chairman of the meeting. The Union Glee Club, under the leadership of Col. Dudley S. Gregory sang appropriate music. And the people decided that when crossing a stream it was the better policy not to swap horses.

One might believe that in the common cause of ministering to the necessities of the families of soldiers at the front, or to the widows and orphans of those who had made the supreme sacrifice, there might be at least some slight forgetfulness of animosities. But such was not the case. The *Standard* was still the mouthpiece of those who carried the bitterness of their unfriendliness to the policies of the Lincoln administration, to the extent of embarrassing the efforts made in the winters of '63, '64 and '65, toward uniting and co-ordinating the local relief organizations. There were enough people to agree that one general organization was the correct principle, and a course of lectures the first winter brought in the snug sum of \$2,000. The popular lecture was then the finest type of diversion, and the Tabernacle, having the largest auditorium, was thronged with the best people every night of these functions.

The *Standard* inveighed against the plan as well as the lecturers: Grace Greenwood's was a mere abolition harangue teeming with negroes

from beginning to end; Dr. A. A. Willetts evidently tickled the *Standard* with his lecture on "Woman," and he said his ideal woman was the one mentioned in the last chapter of the Book of Proverbs, but the *Standard* thought she couldn't have been a nigger, and it couldn't understand how, in these days of woolly heads and niggerites, a man could get through an hour's oration without using up the nigger element pretty effectually; Edmund Kirke came from Boston, "which is at once the home of philanthropy, the hub of the universe and the hotbed of abolition," and his address had certainly made him amenable to the indignation of our people! As a matter of course, the money raised by such methods was tainted.

James Gopsill answered the rather plain and offensive suggestions of the *Standard* about the expense account, by printing a detailed financial statement, and in the winter of '64 and '65, the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 6th Ward funds were raised by direct popular subscription, while the 4th and 5th Ward funds were raised through another course of popular lectures in the Tabernacle. Grace Greenwood, Dr. E. H. Chapin, Edwin W. Whipple, Bayard Taylor, Dr. J. G. Holland and George W. Curtis were among the lecturers, and I fancy they must have said some things that were not pleasant reading for the copperheads, for the *Standard* cut them dead. One lecture in the course, however, was by Charles D. Deshler, once an editor on the *Standard*, and later "Military Agent from New Jersey." He was given a fulsome column of praise in his old paper. Leonard J. Gordon was the organ-

ist at many of these lectures. As a new-comer in Jersey City I did not know, until too late, how deep was his reverence for Lincoln, nor why his pocket copy of Lincoln letters and speeches was the book from which we must read aloud as we rested awhile on our tramps together through Currie's Woods.

Election day, 1864, came on November 8th. The *Standard* that day editorially proclaimed what evidently it would have us believe was the reverse of what was happening then, in this rather remarkable



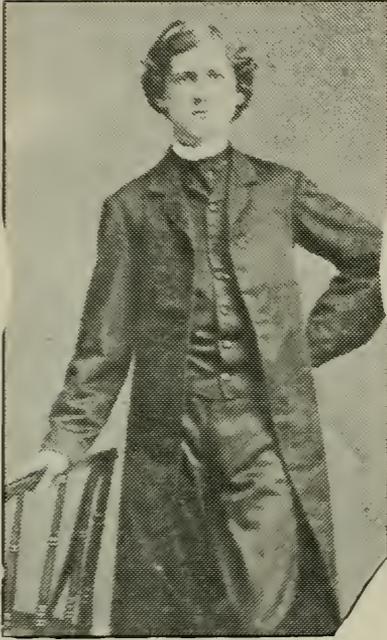
Leonard J. Gordon in 1862.

An 1864
Elysium

utterance: "If General McClellan is elected, speech will be free, opinion will be free, the press will be free. Men will no longer be subjected to arbitrary arrest and imprisonment for political opinions; and the doors of the political jails, bastiles and dungeons will be thrown wide open. His election will bring an end to drafts, conscriptions, mutual slaughters, debts and taxation." But that happy moment has not arrived, even yet. Instead, came the "dark brown taste of the morning after." In an obscure column—remote from the spread head and the glowing news of victorious Democracy (in Hudson County)—is the

matter-of-fact announcement that "Abraham Lincoln is without doubt elected President of the United States." The *Standard* and its clientele in Jersey City undoubtedly looked for the defeat of Lincoln; and have you ever stopped to think what might have happened to the makings of the Lincoln Association in that case?

And you would have a hard time to discover from the *Standard* of the inauguration period that Abraham Lincoln even figured in the exercises of Saturday, March 4, 1865. An editorial column and a half was filled with a screed headed "Andy Johnson;" it consisted of some home-made stew, amplified with a most villainous reprint from the *Herald*. The *Herald* reported Johnson's speech as nineteen minutes in length, and printed it in short, disjointed sentences, interspersed with dashes; and in case that failed to convey the impression intended, the newspaper remarked, "it is charitable to say that his condition was such that he was



Gilbert Collins about 1865.

unfit to make a speech. He evidently did not shun Bourbon County on his way here." The *Standard* piously commented: "We devoutly pray that Heaven in its mercy will preserve the life of Abraham Lincoln during the next four years, if only to relieve the republic from the remote possibility of Andy Johnson's becoming the chief officer of the nation. Heaven preserve us from this further, deeper, unspeakable ingnominy."

In the same spirit of religious observance, the paper printed in its issue of the next Friday the following

INAUGURATION HYMN.

All hail the power of Abram's name Let white folks prostrate fall: Bring forth the colored gentleman, And make him lord of all.	My proclamation has gone forth, The wheel again must turn, To take the boobies of the north "To whom it may concern."
Let white folks no more lift their heads, Nor dare his acts reprove— Of mighty Lincoln—Abram first— Who freed the ones we love.	Let Constitution and the rights Of states no more be known, For we have made the Sambo race Superior to our own.
Stand by and heed the chieftain's cry— "More men we want than that:" Said he to pompous General Fry, "Where will you come out at?"	For this we've fought, for this we've prayed, The nation's life have given, Lord, send the white folks all to hell, The niggers all to Heaven.

And, Lord, when thou art done with earth,
Give to our chosen band
Of woolly heads—sweet scented race—
A place at Thy right hand.

S—

We have to turn to the *Times* for any real news account of the inauguration at all, as well as for the publication of another immortal Lincolnian classic—his last inaugural address—closing with this great sentence: "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wound, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and orphans, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

The news of the fall of Richmond caused great jubilation in the town, and the *Times* must have felt good when its editor wrote, "we are sorry for the *Standard* and its friends"—and there were quite a few of 'em in Jersey City. Secretary Stanton's glad news was published on Monday, April 10, 1865, and immediately the peace celebration broke loose. Uncle Billy, proprietor of the People's Union newsstand, climbed to the loft of the First Presbyterian Church and clanged its bell. Col. Gregory got the 1865 version of a jazz band together and soon a long procession rambled through the streets singing the songs of the day. They stopped at John Milton Holmes' residence, and he made them one of his famous speeches; then J. Brinton Smith spoke to them, and finally, Major Pangborn. In the evening "the illuminations showed one glorious outburst of enthusiasm." All the fire apparatus was paraded, and I rather fancy Empire Hook and Ladder, "including Uncle Dan," must have picked up the editors of both papers.

The
Surrender
in 1865

PROCLAMATION!

Glorious News!

LEE

And his whole Army Captured!

THE QUESTION OF

“ **SELF GOVERNMENT** ”

SETTLED FOREVER.

The Glorious OLD UNION already restored
and Peace and Prosperity within our grasp.

GOD BE PRAISED!

Our Citizens are requested to

 **ILLUMINATE**

PRIVATE AND PUBLIC buildings

TO-NIGHT,

in honor of the Glorious News received
this morning.

ORESTES CLEVELAND,
Monday, April 10, '56. *Mayor.*

for both dwell lovingly upon certain entertainment thereunto appertaining. The *Times* must have been particularly tickled for it declared that "from the unanimity with which all entered into the spirit of the occasion, it would seem that there were no copperheads now resident in Jersey City."

On another page is a reproduction of a "flyer" which was distributed from house to house in that hour of jubilation. The original is probably the only copy in existence, and it was presented by Miss M. Louise Edge to the Free Public Library from whose collection we have been privileged to reproduce it. A curious thing about the circular is the date—the original shows the year as '56 instead of '65. Perhaps the printer might be excused for a little thing like that under the circumstances. Another feature of the composition, too, that will attract attention is that reference to the question of self-government being settled forever. On that same day the editor of the *Standard* was polishing up the following literary gem: "The President is in a great measure subject to the wishes of the radical faction, who will consent to nothing but rapine, violence and devastation, the continuation of bloodshed and murder, the utter subjugation of the South and the final reduction of the seceded States to the condition of conquered territories." Anything to help the cause along!

The shouting and the tumult over the surrender had barely died away before the news of the assassination of the President was spread before the world. Certainly, in the face of such a catastrophe we might look for some mitigation of the flood of contumely. And in a measure this was noticeable—for a few days. A psychological change did appear in the copperhead papers, and the *Standard* re-acted like the rest. Its column rules were "upset" on the inside pages so as to stripe those two pages and divide the columns with black lines about one-eighth of an inch broad. That is, all those two pages were in mourning, except a space about 10 inches deep at the top of the first two columns on page 3; they displayed a circus advertisement, with cuts of prancing horses and fuzzily dressed lady performers, and it made the mourning look like a joke. Mayor Cleveland got himself much disliked by the circus people for refusing a license to the show; he told them that the people of Jersey City were going to frame their conduct with some solemnity at such a time, and they really didn't need a circus to help out.

Then the *Standard* printed "personals," in which the subscribers declared they had never said they were glad the President was shot, as had been charged by other wicked people, who were particularly

The
Catas-
trophe



The USS Albatross (USC 3) at sea, April 24th, 1865.

called upon to desist from spreading such a slander. On April 15th, it reprinted a scathing article from the *Times* of April 12nd, entitled "Who were the Accessories?" Major Pangborn had written the original editorial, and had named by name who some of them were, and by very broad suggestion, who some others were. With a peculiarly holy hurt, the *Standard* reprinted the Major's article under a new head, "Alas, for the Rarity of Christian Charity!" To him it ascribed this sinful lack of this greatest virtue. Here are a few specimens of its diction:

"For months past, as all men know, there have been in the loyal north scores of crafty men, reckless demagogues, whose almost sole employment has been the personal, base, unscrupulous abuse and denunciation of President Lincoln. * * * They have paused at no lie however monstrous, have stuck at no lie however base, have scrupled at using no means however vile, to malign, traduce, and make him hated. Here in Jersey City as elsewhere these men have denounced Abraham Lincoln as a usurper, a tyrant, an oath-breaker, a false, bad man * * * have applied to him the vilest epithets which they could coin. * * * Read the speech of Hon. (?) A. Jackson Rogers, M. C. of this State, the harangues of Chauncey Burr, James W. Wall, and their associates, or the daily diatribes and vile slanders of the *Trenton American*, the *Newark Journal* and the *American Standard* * * * and let the impartial judgment of history decide if our arraignment of these criminals is just."

Other newspaper references told of "the wife of a certain gentleman, an ex-dancing master resident here, who, when she heard of the shocking news gave vent to her gratification by indulging in a dance." Another man, a traveler on a suburban train, made some offensive remarks about the dead President, and his companion in the same seat arose, remarking at the same time that he did not wish to be within hearing of such language. The other passengers, a little less polished, started for the offender to throw him out of the window, but at the critical moment the car jumped the track!

Almost as soon as the assassination of the President became known in Jersey City, Mayor Cleveland called a meeting of the citizens, and they assembled in the Council Chamber of the City Hall that Saturday evening, April 15th. A committee of citizens and members of Common Council from each ward was appointed, consisting of A. O. Zabriskie, F. B. Betts, B. G. Clark and Alderman Wm. Clarke from the 1st ward; Job Male, John H. Lyon, Alexander Wilson and Alderman John McBride, from the 2nd ward; Cornelius Van Vorst, Menzies R.

The
Civic
Observance



Isaac Houston.

Case, Joseph McCoy and Alderman R. K. Terry from the 3rd ward; John Van Vorst, John H. Smyth, Daniel L. Reeve and Alderman J. W. Pangborn from the 4th ward; Charles H. O'Neill, Herbert R. Clark, James Gopsill and Alderman A. A. Gaddis from the 5th ward; A. S. Jewell, W. Moore, Isaac Houston and Alderman Patrick Duff represented the 6th ward.

Major Z. K. Pangborn, M. R. Case, A. S. Jewell, Hon. D. S. Gregory and Hon. J. R. Wortendyke were the committee appointed for drafting appropriate resolutions. In the last of the six paragraphs of its patriotic expression, it was decided to hold the civic meeting in the Tabernacle the next afternoon. To this, practically every church in the city sent representatives. Rev. Dr. Imbrie presided; Rev. Dr. Parnly offered prayer; and many

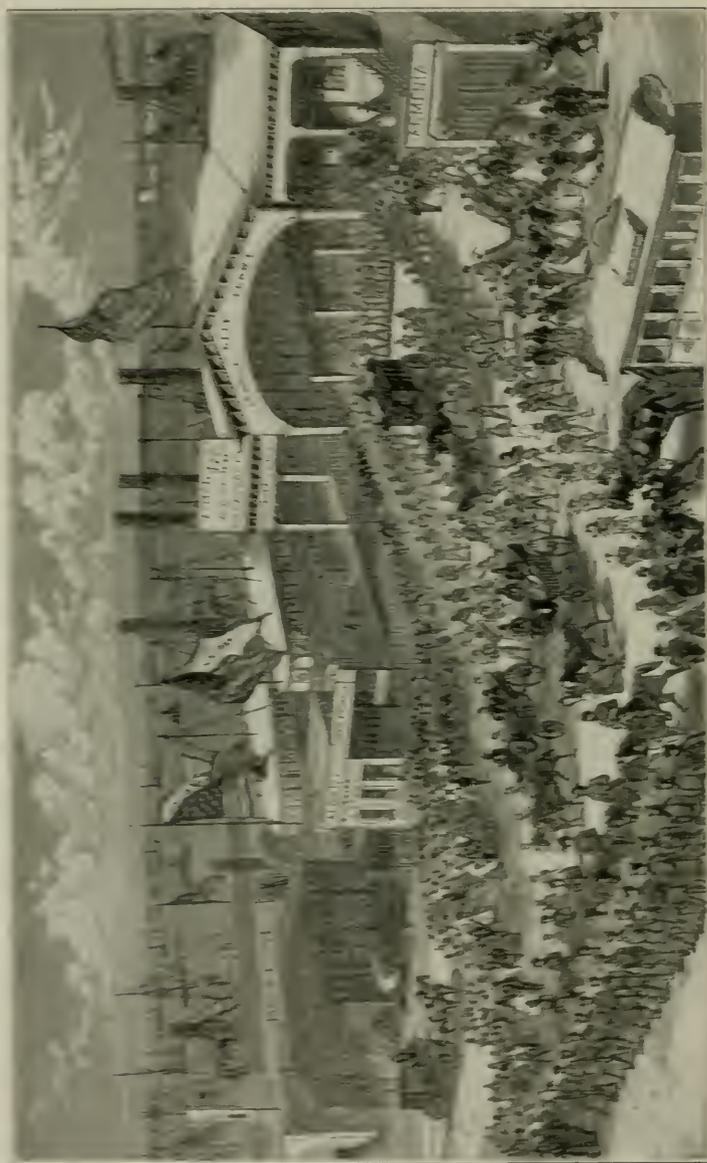
others of the local clergy spoke to the vast audience. Rev. Dr. Harkness was particularly emphatic in demanding the stern execution of the law and condign punishment of the traitors. When he solemnly ejaculated, "God bless Andrew Johnson, President of the United States," there was an "Amen" from every part of the house—and, incidentally, the invocation was a finer thing than the disgusting comment of the *Standard* about "Andy" Johnson's inauguration and his daily conduct ever since.

Mr. Holmes conducted a memorial service in the evening, preaching from the text, "Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan," and from the people who heard that address, and from an intimate study of the life and services of that great preacher and his devotion to the loftiest public ideals, I can well believe that his discourse was of the finest and deepest inspiration. The *Times* published a very complete account of this great meeting in the Tabernacle. The *Standard*, pleading other demands upon its space—without mentioning the circus advertisement—disposes of it in an inch and a half, twelve lines, as a matter-of-fact.

The body of the martyred President, on the way to its last resting place, arrived in Jersey City at 10 o'clock on Monday morning, April 24, 1865. The funeral train was made up of nine cars, and when it rolled into the station a great concourse of citizens were assembled. Municipal delegations from Jersey City, Hudson City, Hoboken, Bergen, Bayonne and Greenville were present. One witness of the scene tells us of the elaborate decorations of the station, in diagonal patterns of black and white, and the inscriptions "Be still, and know that I am God," and "A Nation's Heart was Struck, April 15, 1865" at the east and west ends of the building, respectively. The ferryhouse bore the motto "George Washington, the Father; Abraham Lincoln, the Saviour, of his Country." Minute guns were fired by the Hudson County Artillery and from the Cunarders docked nearby; the church bells were tolled.

The guard of honor and other officials first alighted from the train and were greeted by delegations from here. A number of German singing societies were arranged along the platforms, and while the coffin was being removed from the funeral car, they sang "Integer Vitae." Then ten stalwart veterans raised the casket to their shoulders and bore it down along the north platform, toward the eastern end of the building, then up along the south platform and out at the western entrance of the depot to the hearse which awaited on Hudson Street.

The hearse was drawn by six iron-gray horses, each horse led by a groom in mourning and flanked by the guard of honor; the procession moved through the crowded streets to the slip, where the new boat, the *Jersey City* was waiting. David T. Valentine's "Lincoln Obsequies in the City of New York" has preserved two very interesting pictures which I have borrowed for this story of mine. One of them shows the *Jersey City* dressed in her folds of crepe, her flags at half mast, with the draped funeral car on the deck. The other shows the arrival of the party at the "Jersey City Ferry" at Desbrosses Street, New York. Mr. Heck drew my attention to the fact that one Jersey City man at least was honored in Mr. Valentine's book—Brigadier-General John G. Ramsey, whose name was in the list of the guard of honor, which had accompanied the remains from Washington. Hon. Chauncey M. Depew—then Secretary of State of New York—was in Jersey City that morning, representing Governor Fenton who was unavoidably absent, to receive the body in the name of the Empire State, and to escort it across the Hudson to the city. Mr. Depew is one of the few survivors of the long official reception list.



The Forty City Fairs, DeKalb Street, New York, Showing the Central Freedmen Organization, April 24, 1865.

On previous pages I have referred to an incident of deep historic significance, the meeting that was really the founding of the Union League in New Jersey, in the Tabernacle on March 30, 1863. Of that organization and its reaction in Jersey City proper, there is practically nothing on record in the papers of the time, beyond certain frivolous comments in the *Standard*. But I have been fortunate in being the beneficiary of the good-will of Theodore F. Marseles, who thought when he was clearing out his attic treasures before moving from town, that I would be interested in a little black book he had found. Well, I was. The book turned out to be the minutes of Bergen Council, No 125, Union League of America, covering a period from November 9, 1864 to March 5, 1867. The serial number of the organization is interesting as showing how popular Unionism had become since March 30, 1863, and I have often wondered how many people there were left in these times who could look "back of beyond" and visualize the circumstances in Bergen that gave rise to the meetings that are so curiously and quaintly preserved because a friend remembered his friend's infirmity for antiquities of this sort. As a local historical document, it is of the highest value and unsurpassed interest.

It will hardly be necessary to explain what party these Bergen Union Leaguers belonged to. The records of the very first meeting set down in the book impart the flavor: "Resolved, that during this Winter, this Council will furnish to the citizens of Bergen and vicinity, a course of first-class political lectures on their duty as American citizens to the end that at the next election this glorious little town (the brightest spot in this desert of New Jersey), instead of giving but 200 majority for the Union candidates shall at the Spring election, give more than twice that against such men" as the three they unblushingly mention by name, but whose names are not essential to complete the sentiment. So there you have a pretty picture of Bergen, and what some of its citizens thought of some other of its citizens—who, after all, might have been quite as reputable, too—as sketched only three or four blocks from the Carteret Club, 55 years ago.

One of the customs of the secretary was to record the offering in the hat at each meeting; at this particular meeting the sum was \$5.65, "two bad fifty-cent stamps included." Perhaps some wicked copper-head sneaked in under the tent! A gentleman named Chancellor W. Chace was secretary for a long while, and he has invested his pages with the spark of a thing called life. He was a most careless speller—like George Washington—and in one instance he seems to excuse him-

self by signing as "secty with a sore thumb." But I am grateful to him and to the other secretaries because they have enabled me in 1919 to tie up to the Lincoln Association so many who "were reported worthy to become members of this council." Hundreds of names are recorded, of men who have undergone the scrutiny of this patriotic group of Unionists, who were doing their bit in the tremendous job of crystallizing the Lincolnian idea. The book abounds with references that reveal the strong Union spirit of this group of men of Bergen, and at this point we can display the record of one historical meeting, on April 18, 1865, when E. C. Bramhall, Major Henry Gaines and James Freeman were appointed a committee to draft resolutions on the death of Lincoln. These resolutions embody some pretty plain talk about those responsible for the assassination, and about the political background of the day:

"Whereas, by a sudden and awful visitation of Divine Providence, Abraham Lincoln, President of these United States, has been stricken down by the hand of an assassin with an atrocity of conception and a fiendishness of purpose unparalleled in the history of nations; therefore,

"Resolved, that in this great national calamity we members of the Union League of America do recognize the hand of God to whose will and before whose name we would ever submissively and reverently bow.

"Resolved, that in the carefully planned murder of our beloved Chief, and in the attempted murder of his Secretary of State, we but witness deeper and more damning evidence of the fiendish spirit which has inaugurated, animated and controlled the attempt to destroy the life of the Nation.

"Resolved, that by this afflicting dispensation we are solemnly warned to no longer trifle with our self-respect, disgrace our manhood, and imperil our liberties by any sympathy or leniency towards the leaders of this accursed dead rebellion.

"Resolved, that in the death of Abraham Lincoln we are called to mourn the loss of our chosen leader, an honest man, a pure patriot and a martyr to the cause of civil liberty, human freedom and human progress.

"Resolved, that we will give to Andrew Johnson, now President of the United States, our cordial and unwavering support in his efforts to prosecute the great work which has fallen upon him, to a successful issue.

"Resolved, that as an emblem of our sorrow we will wear the distinctive badge of mourning for thirty days."

As Bergen Council, Union League of America, grew and prospered it took up its quarters in Library Hall. They indulged in their

pleasant diversion of inculcating the duties of American citizenship there one night—Tuesday, September 30, 1867—or perhaps with the purpose of doing some social welfare work. They called in Rev. F. Lummis, a Greenville Methodist minister, to speak for them, and the *Standard* goes nutty over his oratory, “if such disgusting and disconnected remarks as he uttered and his fanatic manner of delivery can be called oratory. His ravings were confined to abuse of President Johnson, the elevation of the negro, the depreciation of the whole white race, and an outrageous and shameful attack upon our German citizens.” I guess it must have been interesting! The *Standard* continues: “Had any man given utterance to such abuse of Abraham Lincoln as this fanatic did of President Johnson, he would have been instantly lynched on the spot where he stood, and Rev. F. Lummis would doubtless have either sided in or encouraged the act—but his wild harangue was apparently received with the greatest favor!” Isn’t that quaintly humorous!

By another strange bit of the good fortune that comes to an antiquarian once every long while, I was given a program of the exercises of a “Meeting in Bergen, April 19, 1865, in Commemoration of the Death and Burial of Abraham Lincoln.” The copy is probably the only one in existence, and it has its value as a souvenir of an occasion of most solemn import to the world and at the same time of identifying those who were proud to honor “the late President of the United States.” It came to me from R. W. Woodward, whose father was A. A. Woodward, one of the councilmanic committee in charge of the affair. The senior Mr. Woodward was elected to membership in Bergen Council, No. 125, November 29, 1864.

The Town Mourns

These commemorative gatherings were held all over the country on April 19, 1865, between the hours of 11 and 3. It is well worth remembering that the date is commemorative of the Battle of Lexington, when “embattled farmers” projected the astounding idea of opposing trained soldiery in defense of their liberties: the war we have just ended was won because idealists like them still lived in America.

Most of the names on that program are on the roster of Bergen Council. Perhaps some of my readers may need to be informed that in those days the town of Bergen was a separate municipality with a Board of Councilmen and a President, then John Hilton; and a Town Clerk, then Charles Keenan. President Lincoln was assassinated on Good Friday night, April 14, 1865; the citizens of Bergen assembled in town meeting on Monday night, April 17th, to arrange for the services for the following Wednesday. It must have been an embarrassing thing

MEETING IN BERGEN,

APRIL 19, 1865,

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE DEATH AND BURIAL OF

ABRAHAM LINCOLN,

LATE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES:

PRESIDENT,

Dr. J. M. CORNELISON.

VICE-PRESIDENTS,

JOHN HILTON,
HENRY FITCH,
J. G. PARKER,

E. B. WAKEMAN
CAPT A ST JOHN,
M. S. ALLISON

MARSHAL—G VREELAND

ORDER OF EXERCISES—Commencing at 2½ P. M.

Opening Hymn.....
Prayer.....	Rev. Dr. Taylor
Address.....	Rev. E. W. French
Ode.....	By School Children
Address.....	Rev. S. Y. Monroe
Address.....	A. A. Hardenburg, Esq
Doxology.....	Old Hundred
Closing Prayer.....	Rev. Mr. Duryea
Benediction.....	Rev. Mr. Monroe

N. B.—The meeting will be held on the grounds of A. Bonnell, on Park Place. If it rains, the meeting will be in the Presbyterian Church.

The Fire Department, the Council, and Board of Education, will convene at the Town Hall, at 2 o'clock.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE

JOHN HILTON,	R. L. SMITH,	G. VAN HORN.
	FIRST WARD.	
HENRY FITCH,	HARRISON IRICE.	WALTER STORM.
	SECOND WARD	
A. L. MACDUFF,	GARRET VREELAND.	E. B. WAKEMAN
	THIRD WARD	
WM. KEENY,	J. B. CLEVELAND,	A. A. WOODWARD

By order of the Committee of Arrangements,
JOHN HILTON, *Chairman.*

to communicate, but town clerk Keenan had to inform the Council that up to the previous Saturday the town was without a flag to display upon the Town Hall, and that it had lacked the proper material for draping the councilmanic chambers. Then A. A. Hardenbergh, "at the bank," had come to the rescue by advancing \$130, which the Council promptly and unanimously voted to reimburse to Mr. Hardenbergh, with thanks of the Council.

At that meeting, there were present John Hilton and Councilmen Bowke, Hardenbergh, Hutchings, Smith and G. Van Horn: absent Brinkerhoff and J. C. Van Horn. The formal reading of the call for the meeting, signed by A. A. Hardenbergh and Garret Van Horn, and reciting the circumstances of the tragedy and asking for a citizen's meeting, being concluded, a committee from the council was appointed, consisting of Councilmen Hutchings from Columbia ward; Smith from Franklin ward; Hardenbergh from Communipaw ward; and Garret Van Horn.

The Board of Education was requested to dismiss the schools, in order that the children might participate in the ceremonies. A committee of citizens was also appointed by John Hilton to escort the body of the President across the river when it passed through here on the way west. This committee consisted of John M. Cornelison, Hartman Van Wagenen, Cornelius C. Van Reyphen, Edgar B. Wakeman, Capt. E. C. Hopper, George Gifford, Mindert Van Horn, Jeremiah D. Cleveland and Wm. Keeny.

April 19, 1865, in Bergen was a day of "balmy, vernal sunshine; the beauty of the loveliest day of opening Springtime was about us; but the shadow of the wings of the angel of death seemed to darken all the land." Commerce was everywhere silent; the *Times* notes with especial pleasure that all liquor saloons were closed; all places of public resort were deserted; the whole neighborhood was sombre in habiliments of woe.

The commemoration services were inaugurated by a procession



John Hilton



Lafayette

STEAMER

No. 2

B. C. F. D.

A NATION MOURNS

THE DEPARTED
PATRIOT,
STATESMAN,
And MARTYR,



Born Feb. 12th, 1809,
Died April 15th, 1865.

that started at Prospect Hall at the western side of the junction of Jewett, Storms and Fairmount Avenues, just south of the present residence of James E. Pope, at about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and then marched to the grounds of Alex. Bonnell on Park Street. There were 1,100 school children in the procession; and every time I pass what they used to call "Aleck Bonnell's orchard," I like to think of that stately building which our friend John T. Rowland has designed as the Lincoln High School, as a fit and beautiful memorial with which Jersey City has perpetuated that meeting of those who first honored Lincoln there.

Of course no real civic function in those times would be complete without the firemen, so all the Bergen companies were out in full force and uniform. The firemen, as well as the school children, wore special mourning badges, and I have one of each of these, doubtless the only ones now extant. Then there were the councilmanic committee, the

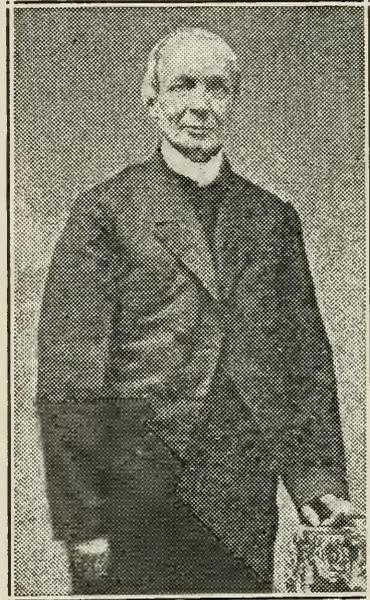
Board of Education, and citizens in general, altogether some 3,000 people, not counting the school children. A pavilion had been erected, and, advancing to the front of the platform, Marshal Garret Vreeland announced Dr. John M. Cornelison as president, and John Hilton, Henry Fitch, John G. Parker, E. B. Wakeman, A. P. St. John and M. S. Allison as vice-presidents of the meeting. The council committee, consisting of John Hilton, R. L. Smith, Garret Van Horn, Henry Fitch, Harrison Price, Walter Storm, A. L. MacDuff, Garret Vreeland, E. B. Wakeman, Wm. Keeny, J. B. Cleveland and A. A. Woodward had seats reserved for them inside the railing.

First the audience sang Cowper's hymn, "God moves in a Mysterious Way;" Abraham Speer led them out there under the budding trees. Then Rev. Dr. B. C. Taylor of Bergen Reformed Church offered a prayer. Rev. E. W. French of the First Presbyterian Church of Bergen followed with an address, of finely phrased patriotic spirit. The school children sang "America" next. Rev. S. Y. Monroe followed with an address which kept the audience "constantly beaming sympathy with the tenderness, courage, hopefulness, and piety of the martyred President."

A. A. Hardenbergh was the last speaker, and he gave an address which was noted as dealing masterfully with the spirit of the occasion and the character of the man for whom they had come there to mourn. The concluding

prayer was offered by Rev. W. R. Duryea of the Lafayette Reformed Church; in his petition he returned especial thankfulness for the fact of Andrew Johnson because he would punish the traitors who had perpetrated the murder of the President. Then with the audience standing, the Doxology was sung by the audience, and the Benediction pronounced by Rev. Mr. Monroe.

The Bergen Town Council minutes have saved a very nice little note of this meeting for us: the entire cost of the commemoration service



Rev. B. C. Taylor

was \$500. The bills were ordered paid, and then a resolution was passed, testifying to the efficiency of John Hilton and his committee in organizing and carrying out the purposes of the meeting in such dignified and capable a manner. This was ordered spread in full upon the minutes.

And before we leave Lincoln High School grounds again—should it not be an inspiration to those of this generation who have the high privilege and opportunity to sit within the classic bounds of Aleck. Bonnell's orchard, to recall that fine gathering in 1865? The whole town had turned out to honor the memory of a man who had certain advanced notions about human liberty and national life; and in all the years ever since in Jersey City the Lincoln Association has nobly kept those ideals before the people of its own times, as no other institution has done.

The New England Societies

Another potential factor in crystallizing the Lincoln Association that was to be, has been pointed out with especial directness by those of our political fellow-citizens who did not like the New Englanders. It is rather difficult for us of this generation to visualize anything like a friendly feeling in remarks like those printed in the local newspapers, and to which I have already referred at some length. "The fact is that Yankee blood is not pure; it is more than half nigger," said the *Telegraph* in 1857. The New Englanders had come to Jersey City a score of years before the Civil War and brought their New England ideals with them, ideals which might be said in all candor to be somewhat opposed to those of the *Telegraph* and its brand of kultur.

How important a part these Yankees played in the making of the Lincoln sentiment in Jersey City may be surmised by a casual reading of the biographical sketches in various local historical and biographical publications. Men from New England filled our pulpits, taught our schools, healed our sick, kept our stores, and influenced our political destinies. By the middle '50's there were enough of these New Englanders in our midst who were touched by that age-old weakness, home-longing, to organize a New England Society of Jersey City. At the centre of the movement was a young man named Alfrederick Smith Hatch; he came here from Burlington, Vermont, and was first a clerk in, and in 1857, cashier of the Bank of Jersey City, then located on part of the site now occupied by our Federal Building. In passing, it will not be without interest to observe that his income was published in the Government tax list of 1864 as \$75,000. Mr. Hatch

as a young man was given to a devotion to what he believed to be high-principled things. One of them was a native abhorrence of the institution of slavery. About the same time Lincoln's name was mentioned—just barely mentioned—in connection with Douglas' in those debates, Mr. Hatch got into a local row on the same question; the *Telegraph* let him off with something like this: "Much is to be allowed for the extravagant assertions of a man of Mr. Hatch's peculiarly excitable temperament and strong anti-slavery feeling."

Mr. Hatch was organizer, speaker, treasurer, and general utility man for the New England Society of Jersey City, now a forgotten, unknown institution. Somewhere in a Jersey City attic stored away in an old trunk, I have no doubt there is a bunch of dinner-cards, or newspaper clippings, or something from which that torn-out page of our local history may be reconstructed. The first dinner of the Society was held on Forefathers' Day, December 22, 1857, in Lyceum Hall, and eight years afterward (at the dinner of 1865) one of the speakers, growing reminiscent, lets us into the secret of a turbulent scene at the original dinner when somebody who had been invited to eat, started to fight, "but one of our New England brethren, Mr. P——— boldly stepped into the arena and unhorsed him at the first encounter." There is a very broad insinuation that the trouble arose over the elaborate divergence of political views held by the forensic combatants.

If I came from Vermont, instead of Pennsylvania, to Jersey City, I think I should never cease to remind this town of what it owed to its Green Mountain ancestry. First and foremost was Wm. L. Dickinson, who came here from the University of Vermont, to found a select school for boys in the Lyceum building in 1839, and who became the father of our educational system, as well as of an interesting family. He, too, was one of the New England Society folk who did not have far to go when Lincolnian platforms were to be reached. Dr. Wheelock H. Parmly, Rev. Hiram Mattison, Rev. John Hanlon—all Vermonters—were great spiritual lights in their day and generation, and their names appear at many a function of the New England Society.

The newspaper literature of the second annual dinner of the Society, in 1859, gives us some of the names of people who were active participants: David Gould, president, 48 Essex St; W. L. Dickinson, 158 Wayne St; H. C. Dickinson, 234 York St.; A. S. Hatch, treasurer, 52 Grand St.; Joel C. Lane, 45 Grand St.; E. H. Rockwell, secretary, 228 York St.; W. H. Talcott, 61 Grand St.; Samuel L. Pearson, 179 Grand St.; Harvey Fisk, 254 South 5th St. The New

Englanders had plenty else to do in Jersey City for the next few years—and this is one of my reasons for elaborating upon the theme of a New England Society before the Lincoln Association—and they announced that their celebration for 1865 would be held in Taylor's Hotel, and open to all those "residents of Jersey City honored by birth in New England or born of New England parentage. * * * Their Society had been honored by the maledictions of secessionists and copperheads; now that the principles they stood for had been so signally



W. L. Dickinson and his family about 1856.
(The boy in short skirts was later president of the Lincoln Association.)

vindicated they proposed to resume their annual dinners which had been suspended since 1860." I can find but a few names mentioned as among the throng who attended it. Rev. Dr. Parmly, Rev. Dr. Mattison, Rev. John Milton Holmes, Jacob Weart, S. B. Ransom, A. S. Hatch and Miss Sarah Gould were among the speakers. Wm. E. Pearson, J. W. Pangborn, S. B. Ransom and D. S. Gregory, Jr., were on the committee that year.

The "special correspondent" of the *Times* dated a letter from a place called Bergen, late in 1865, in which the startling news is suggested that the Yankees had not only taken Jersey City, but that hilltop

stronghold of the Dutch as well. For there was a New England Society of Bergen in 1865, that met that year for its repast of pumpkin pie, doughnuts, walnuts and roast turkey, at the residence of its vice-president, E. Bliss. The gallant Major Henry Gaines responded to the toast "The Daughters of New England;" E. Bliss, "New England Homes on Bergen Hill;" T. H. Bennet, "Yankee Enterprise;" and others. From the reports of its dinners in later years, I glean the names of John G. Parker, president; A. A. Woodward, vice-president; R. B. Seymour, secretary; Henry Gaines, treasurer; Col. G. W. Thorne, revenue collector for this district; E. B. Wakeman, Edw. Doolittle, A. G. Avery, J. M. Barrows, Charles Butrie, Captain Howe, T. J. Kimball.

A great many of these New England names have now faded from Jersey City history, too, but the men who bore them were here long enough to play a splendid part in the dramatic events of their generation. It seems impossible to separate their allegiance as New Englanders from the cause for which Lincoln's life was lived; and I am sure we can all pay our tribute from "this distant shore of time" to their superb loyalty in the city of their adoption in those dark days of the war.

Now one might presume, even if he were not gifted with extraordinary powers of imagination, that the reconstruction period should have witnessed a wholesale abandonment of the old vituperative spirit. The assassination of the President was followed by a wave of horror and repugnance; those who directly or indirectly, nearly or remotely, aided or abetted or condoned the crime should have turned over a new page in their history. But did they? We can not begin to comprehend such an alignment of our own people in those years, but most of us of to-day know a little about a certain national psychology.

For a generation before the Civil War, as I have pointed out, unbridled license of speech and absolute intolerance with others' political opinions were rampant; the dogma of State's Rights and all its corollary heresies had obsessed the political factors of the nation. But do you suppose for one minute that people's souls were converted by the tragedy of that Good Friday night of 1865? One does not dispossess himself of the teachings, traditions and training of a lifetime quite so easily as he does of his worn out underwear. Unrepentant, unabashed, unashamed the ancient policies of obstructionism and destruction were pursued to a nauseating degree. And the fiery Major Pangborn pilloried them with his splendid powers of invective and scorn. The period of the "bloody shirt" was on, and the newspaper history and the oratory of the Lincoln Association blazes with it.

Reconstruction Days

June 1, 1865, was appointed by President Johnson as a Lincoln Memorial and Fast Day. The big observance of the day was naturally where the biggest crowd could be gathered, in the Tabernacle. Mr. Holmes was at his best, and the *Times* applauded him tremendously the next day for it. In it he told many anecdotes about Lincoln, one of them related to him by a widow in Jersey City with two sons, one mortally wounded and the other badly hurt at Gettysburg. The mother tried in vain to have one of the boys sent home to her, but she could not secure his discharge; so she finally went to Washington and did the amazing thing of reaching the President and getting a note from him like this: "Let Edwin F. P——, named in my note on the other half of this sheet be discharged—A. Lincoln." The widow showed Mr. Holmes the letter and told him how "he spoke to me as though I had been his mother." I should like to know who "Edwin F. P——" was, and the mother who was so honored.

Now just to show the contrast, here was the *Standard's* reaction. Lincoln was not so very long dead in June, 1865; the *Standard* was running a number of intended-to-be facetious articles entitled "Spelling Lessons for Youth." In one of the lists of words, "T-a-b-e-r-n-a-c-l-e, a large hall much used for political elocution," was the funny crack at the place where Mr. Holmes had paid his tribute to the great President. The following October 9th, Anne E. Dickinson gave a lecture for the benefit of the Children's Home there. Her subject was rather suggestive of what would happen when you chucked a match into a gunpowder can: "The Record of the Democratic Party during the Rebellion." And it happened. She opened her address with a reference to the "exigencies which called a woman from her wonted sphere to enter the loathsome charnel house of the democratic party." In a long account of the lecture, or harangue as the *Standard* called it, the lecturer was alluded to as "Gentle Anna," "a gentleman of the female persuasion," "a fair pythoness; words of bitterness crawled from her red and beautiful lips like foul spiders crawling from the blushing petals of a rose." And so on, "We say nothing," concluded the *Standard*, "of the questionable taste of turning the pulpit into the stump, further than that the fact of our Saviour having been cradled in a manger is no reason why a church edifice should be transmogrified into a stable."

The civic side of the Fourth of July celebration was arranged for the Tabernacle that year (1865). Arrangements had been made by Alderman McBride for the function, and the whole affair was written up by the editor of the *Standard* beforehand—but it didn't happen at all. In their minute book may still be seen the provision made by the



Major Zebina Kellogg Pangborn

trustees that the permission was to be revoked if the orator was not acceptable to them. The *Times* said that the Municipal celebration consisted of a procession by Mayor Cleveland and Alderman Gafney. The Congregationalists were still choice, it seems, about their reputation as Lincolnians.

From this perspective of years, I think it may be stated without fear of successful contradiction that the most forceful character in Jersey City for the largest part of his life here was Major Z. K. Pangborn. His contribution to the public life of his times was a civic asset that no man can truly measure. He came here shortly before the Civil War closed, I have been informed by David R. Daly, at the instance of Hon. Dudley S. Gregory,

and his immediate identification with the *Times* meant the co-ordination of his unique talents as a newspaper man with high opportunity for public service.

Mighty few people appreciate his real greatness; they remember the closing years of his life with much more vividness than they do his dauntless, virile young manhood; and when the real historian of Jersey City comes, I well know whom he will honor. He had a most intense detestation of anything opposed to the spirit of the Union and a regard for Lincoln that transcended veneration. Through the courtesy of Mr. Geo. H. Blake, I am able to present a very tangible and interesting souvenir of his association with affairs Lincolnian: he was one of the committee of arrangements for the first Lincoln inaugural ball in 1861.

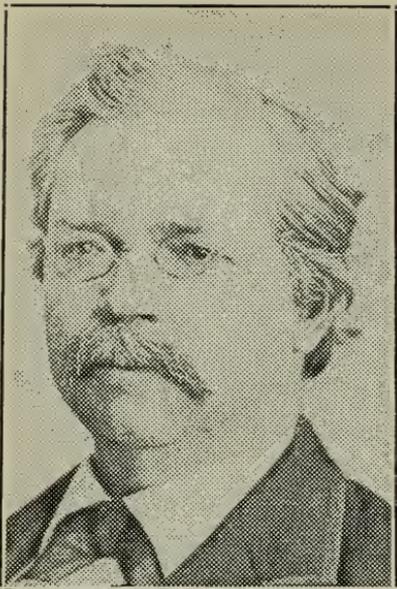
The Major's likes and dislikes were always open; that was his character. And he could wither an opponent with irony, or curl him up with the scorn of his logic. For example, he disliked Dickens, for some reason, although "chawming Chawles'" reputation managed to survive that; and he made fun of Matthew Arnold when that philosopher came to Jersey City. He had rather pronounced aversions in certain sectarian directions, which he was never careful to conceal. These things seem humorous, perhaps, but when you see them recorded in

his diary—the *Times*, and then the *Journal*—day after day, year after year, you get a splendid estimate of his sterling purposes and the openness, vigor and earnestness he used in effecting them. So, when the time came that he could use his extraordinary intellectual equipment to such an end he joined—he was, in a large measure—the Lincoln Association.

I have gone through a great many column miles of the history of Jersey City, as her contemporary newspapers have written it; I hope I have succeeded in conveying the impression by the few samples of local color printed on previous pages that there was urgent need of a Lincoln Association in 1865, the year apparently indicated by the present literature of the Association as that of its founding. But I regret to say that I can find no documentary evidence of the organization of the Lincoln Association or of its doings earlier than February 12, 1867, and I quote no less an authority for the statement that that was the date of its founding, than Major Z. K. Pangborn himself.

In the third number of the newly established *Journal*, on May 4, 1867, the story of its permanent organization was printed, and the date of the previous February 12th was specifically named; further confirmation of this is supplied in another story in the *Journal*, the following December, in these words: "The Association was formed on February 12th last (1867), the anniversary of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln, by eight gentlemen who met socially and, after a discussion of the subject, voted to organize as a Lincoln Association which should commemorate the birthday of the lamented President and in other ways seek to cherish the memory of his virtues and public services. Since that date regular monthly meetings have been held, and occasional extra meetings, all of which have been pleasant and profitable." At that time (December 24, 1867), the Association numbered forty-three members.

The meeting for permanent organization above referred to was held at Zschau's Union House, 146 Newark Avenue, on May 3, 1867. The following officers were elected: President, David W. Weiss; vice-president, Benjamin Russell; secretary, William B. Dunning; treasurer, Earl P. Lane; steward, Charles A. Zschau. At that meeting the following new members were elected: Hon. James Gopsill, Maj. Z. K. Pangborn, Capt. Charles H. Laning, Dr. Adolphus Kirsten, Dr. Selnow, William W. Ward, Louis Tetens, James C. Orr, John W. Pangborn, Henry T. Lee, George H. Whipple, Allen T. Waterman, and Prof. Charles Larwell.



Judge Stephen Quaife

From other sources I have gleaned the names of the little, yet memorable, company which met at Zschau's on February 12, 1867, for what people then thought was the first formal celebration by a Lincoln Association: David W. Weiss, Benjamin Russell, Earl P. Lane, Prof. Charles Knowles, Charles Baker, Dietrich Kuhn, Peter Kolb, and C. A. Zschau. Mr. Kolb contributed some German songs to the festivity of that historic occasion. If this present publication will call forth any authentic records of any earlier meetings, I am sure the historian of the Lincoln Association will be proud to add them to his archives.

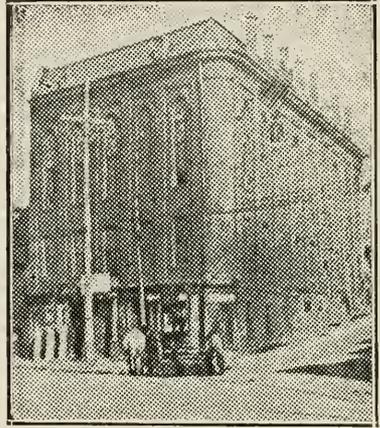
There was a meeting of the Association April 15, 1867, attended by about 100 persons, whose names were not considered important enough by the reporter for the *Times* to get into print, save that of Judge

Stephen Quaife, whose singing procured for him that distinction. Then came the organization meeting of May 3rd. In its report of the semi-annual meeting of September 5, 1867, the *Journal* informs us that this gathering was held in "their rooms at Zschau's, Newark Avenue." The event of that evening was the presentation to the president, D. W. Weiss, Esq., of an elegant photograph album containing the likenesses of all the members of the Association. The presentation speech was made by Major Pangborn, at the request of the members. Has anybody who reads this ever seen that album? Brief speeches were also made by Capt. A. S. Cloke, Benj. Van Riper, Benjamin Russell, W. W. Ward, Earl P. Lane, Dr. Adolphus Kirsten, Capt. William B. Dunning and others. Mr. Larwell's excellent singing was commented upon in the paper, and so was the generous collation where "the wines flowed freely."

At the next meeting, on October 3, 1867, the proceedings were along the line of commemorating the emancipation proclamation. The company gathered at Zschau's, as usual. Benjamin Van Riper made an eloquent speech, in the course of which he recited T. Buchanan Read's "Sheridan's Ride;" then Capt. Albert S. Cloke, one of "Little Phil's" troopers, gave some personal reminiscences of the great cavalry

leader. Other speakers were Allen T. Waterman, William W. Ward, Capt. Wm. B. Dunning and Joseph Acton. Benjamin Russell gives an interesting bit of background for having made a red-hot speech denouncing the "treason" of Andrew Johnson. Professors Larwell and Knowles rendered musical selections, and Messrs. Waters and Zschau told some Lincoln stories. The *Journal* does not state what was the hour when Carl turned out the lights, but it must have been on the morning after. On Thursday, November 7th, there was another informal meeting "and the proceedings were, as usual, interesting." Judge Hough, Mr. Steele, Captain Cloke and Benjamin Van Riper were the speakers.

One may naturally be prepared by these reports of late hours and probable convivialities for the announcement of that famous ball by the Lincoln Association. The Lincolnians' ladies were included in that function, which was held on Christmas eve, 1867, in Library Hall, that classical building yet standing at the corner of Summit Avenue and Grand Street. Dodworth's band furnished the superb music; at 10 o'clock they played the opening march "Grand Entree, Lincoln" and at 5 in the morning they wound up with "Home, Sweet Home." For some reason, individual toilettes were not described, although we are assured that the beautiful ladies and their dresses were most bewitching.



Library Hall.

It seems curious that the *Journal* found it necessary to incorporate in its story of the dance the statement that no liquor was sold or obtainable on the premises or nearby. Champagne, of course, did not count, for another sentence tells us that that was served at the supper, free for those who chose to use it, just like ice water. Mr. Green was the capable caterer. Benjamin Van Riper was floor manager; he was assisted by William W. Ward, Joseph Acton, and James C. Orr. The reception committee was William B. Dunning, C. A. Zschau, and E. P. Lane. Some of these days, I hope to find one of the orders of dancing which some sweet Jersey City girl may have laid away with a little faded flower in memory of that glorious night!

On Thursday, February 6, 1868, the Association held their regular monthly, as well as the annual, meeting of members at their

rooms at Zschau's. The *Journal* was so excited over a distinction paid to Capt. Dunning that it overlooked such unimportant details as telling us of the progress of the big dinner or who was elected to the officiate of the Association. The Captain was made the recipient of a heavy hunting case gold watch bearing this inscription: "From the Lincoln Association of Jersey City to their Secretary, William B. Dunning, February 6, 1868." The *Journal* continues: "The presentation was followed by certain agreeable exercises—bibulous, gustatory and social. We congratulate our associate upon having been thus watched to some purpose. We have always found him on time and have no doubt he will be as much so as ever. The only possible objection we could have to the affair being a slight apprehension that he may be induced to run on tick, which is not according to the *Evening Journal's* rules of procedure."

That Great
Dinner of
'68

For some weeks of December and January, 1867-8, the *Journal* gives us many illuminating suggestions as to the prospects for the forthcoming function, which was referred to, quite as a matter of course, as the first real Lincoln dinner. Dear only knows how many Lincoln dinners had been absorbed on all sorts of occasions that offered excuse for congregating, but this was to be the great dinner. There were 300 tickets issued at \$5 each; there were to be wonders of cuisine; a feast of reason and a flow of soul such as Jersey City had never before contemplated. Four sets of committees were at work: Invitation—Albert S. Cloke, Z. K. Pangborn, Daniel McLeod, Joseph Acton and Adolphus Kirsten. Reception—Benjamin Russell, James Gopsill, William B. Dunning, John Ramsey, and LeRoy Schermerhorn. Banquet—Benjamin Van Riper, William W. Ward, Earl P. Lane, Jacob M. Merseles and Charles H. Laning. Music—Dudley S. Gregory, Jr., P. Bethune Steele, Edward Reimal, Charles A. Zschau, John Hough and Theodore Baker. Sentiments—David W. Weiss, Charles Larwell, James Doxey, James C. Orr and Eugene Knowles.

It took several issues of the *Journal*, commencing with Tuesday, February 13, 1868, to tell the wonders of this, the first great banquet of the Lincoln Association of Jersey City. There were 13 formal toasts. David W. Weiss presided with becoming dignity and suavity; Col. Gregory's Glee Club made the banquet hall ring with their patriotic songs; the 71st Regiment band rendered superb selections. Altogether the report is spread out over a dozen columns, and certainly no one could question the fact that the Lincoln Association had arrived then! Rev. Dr. H. A. Cordo of the North Baptist Church invoked Divine

blessing on the sumptuous meal, and then they were all off for an hour and a half.

Secretary William B. Dunning read the letters and telegrams received from distinguished men who might have been guests; such folk as Robert T. Lincoln, Schuyler Colfax, Henry Wilson, Secretary Edwin M. Stanton, Lieutenant-General W. T. Sherman, John A. Logan and many other notables who were cheered to the echo as their messages were read to the company. The report tells us that although it was the design to exclude all strictly political matters, "we noticed that every allusion to General Grant called out the heartiest cheers." The General was elected President the following November.

With a fine reminiscent sense, the governors of the 37th annual banquet in 1902 reprinted that remarkable list of toasts responded to in 1868, in the dinner souvenir of that year, and the printer started it off in bold-face type "24 years ago;" it should have been "34 years ago"—but the blunder isn't so flagrant, considering the thing they intended to perpetuate. In passing, a couple of other curious slips are noticed in going through these old records. For example, there were two "21st annual banquets;" one in 1886, and another in 1887; there was no 23rd, perhaps for that reason; they jumped from the 22d in 1888 to the 24th in 1889. The 13 toasts of 1868 were inaugurated by Major Pangborn: "To the memory of Abraham Lincoln, whose birthday we commemorate:" then came Hon. John Davidson of Elizabeth, on "George Washington;" Hon. Dudley S. Gregory on "The President of the United States"—and I think there was perhaps a bit of a "frost" right there; at any rate, Mr. Gregory talked quite a bit about his having lived during the lives of every one of them since the second, and not so much about Mr. Johnson. Charles H. Wehle of Hoboken responded to "The Congress;" Jacob Weart, Esq., to "The Judiciary;" Hon. Benjamin Buckley, of Paterson, to "The State of New Jersey;" Col. J. N. Coyne to "The Army." There was no one to respond to "The Navy." Benjamin Van Riper, Esq. was most eloquent about "The Emancipation Proclamation;" "The Press" was handled pleasantly by Joseph A. Dear, then connected with the *Times*. One of the really big oratorical events of the evening was James Gopsill's response to "Jersey City—cosmopolitan in its character, Dutch in its origin, Yankee in its growth." Mr. Gopsill's speech seems to have pioneered along pretty fine lines, and such abstracts of his address as are preserved help us to a belief that the Jersey City of 51 years ago must have had some very neighborly people in it. He was one of the great men of

that generation, and his speeches on all such occasions ring with the finest type of patriotism.

I wonder what happened in 1869! There were two dinners on February 12, that year, one held in Cooper's Hall, with 150 present, and presided over by Mr. Weiss. The "Jersey City" toast asked the question "when shall we see the day when we shall hail the city and County of Hudson?" A cane, a pair of white kid gloves and a pocket handkerchief presented to Capt. Benjamin Richardson at Lincoln's inauguration were shown at the dinner. That function I am considering the orthodox one, because it shows Mr. Weiss was there. The other was smaller, 50 being present, and it was held at Zschau's. Capt. Dunning was reported as its president. The current reports repeat the facts about the eight originals, two years before, and add that they solemnly bound themselves to observe the Lincoln celebration every year for life, and to enjoin the observance upon those who came after them. Isn't it an exquisite recollection for us tonight, ourselves as the inheritors of that fine, patriotic compact away back there across the mists of half a century!

Looking to the Future

The story of the Lincoln Association in all its eventful years since that famous first night would hardly fit the title printed at the beginning of this essay; and so I leave with you this narrative of those strenuous days, and their action and reaction, their turmoil and commotion, in which were shaped men of such great mold. We are now confronting a time of transcendent import in the history of the world; somehow, it seems to me, it ought to be a splendid spiritual stimulus to us whose manhood has been lived in this generation, to be better fitted for our part in the new reconstruction, by believing in the ideals of Abraham Lincoln with all our hearts. Men of our own blood, of our own firesides and friendships, have crossed the seas and faced the din and carnage of the most awful war of all time, some have given "the last full measure of devotion"—with no other impulse than the common right of peoples to live in liberty and the pursuit of happiness. So long as there is a spot on God's green earth that is not safe for democracy there will be reason for the perpetuation of this great impelling force which has grown out of "The 'Makings' of the Lincoln Association."

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